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NECK DEEP

p22

Ben Barlow couldn't quite ollie over his rollercoaster pics

COVER PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES; NECK DEEP PHOTOS: ANDREW LIPOVSKY



HELLO, READERS. Welcome to this week's Kerrang!, where we celebrate the rise and rise of one of our scene's most important bands, Paramore, whose sterling 2005 debut, *All We Know Is Falling*, turns 10 years old this week. It's a record that, personally, matters a lot to me – there are memories embedded within the grooves of that record that I don't think will ever die. I know I'm far from being the only one who feels like that, and if you head to p16 now, you can relive the album's amazing origin story. Until next week, enjoy the issue!

James
Editor

NEWS

ON THE COVER:

The lowdown

on the new **Fightstar** album and tour (p4)! Plus, inside **Bring Me The Horizon's** new music (p8) and we go rolling with **Dave Grohl** (p10).

FEATURES

ON THE COVER: As **Paramore's** debut album turns 10, we tell the story of its creation with the help of all the key players (p16). Plus, we join **Neck Deep** (p22) on the road at *Warped Tour*, and find out how **We Came As Romans** (p28) and **Frank Turner** (p38) both put their difficult past behind them, and fry our minds trying to solve some of **rock's** greatest puzzles... (p40).

POSTERS

ON THE COVER: Jared Leto's **Joker**, Dave Grohl, **Creeper** and loads more (p30)!

LIVES

It's the 21st birthday of **Korn's** debut album (p46)! And they played it in full for us (and a few thousand others) in London. **Young Guns** also return to the stage (p48). **THE HELL** have a hilarious night, and **VAMPS** rock the Hyper Japan expo in London (p49)!

REVIEWS

ON THE COVER:

So, **Lamb Of God** released one of the heaviest albums of the year (p50), and **Knuckle Puck** have made one of the catchiest (p51). We also take a look at how **Killswitch Engage** made a metal masterpiece (p53).

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KORN p46

The Exorcism Of Jonathan Davis: in cinemas near you soon





NEWS



Charlie still hadn't found a better way to do his hair than good ol' electrocution



THE BIG STORY
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING EVER

EXCLUSIVE

FIGHTSTAR STRIKE BACK!

REUNITED BRIT HEROES RETURN WITH A UK TOUR AND THEIR FIRST ALBUM IN SIX YEARS – BEHIND THE DEVIL'S BACK. NOW, **CHARLIE SIMPSON** TELLS K! WHY THE DEVIL THEY'RE BACK...



FIRST THERE WAS the one-off live date at London's Kentish Town Forum last December. Then there was a smattering of UK dates in February. Then they headlined the third stage at Download last month. Now, Fightstar are back. Like, properly actually back. And we're not just talking about their newly announced nine-date UK tour (see the Gig Guide).

Here, frontman Charlie Simpson exclusively takes K! inside *Behind The Devil's Back* – Fightstar's first full-length album in six years, due October 16. And it's an album which Charlie is confident is the best thing they have ever done...

HI, CHARLIE! DID PLAYING SHOWS SPUR YOU BACK INTO ACTION?

"We'd never really planned on doing any new music, we just thought we'd do those

shows as a celebration of the last 10 years, but it was so good playing together again and the reaction from the fans was so amazing we thought we'd start writing some stuff and see how it went. We were all into the idea straight away, but I was very alert to the fact that I didn't want to put music out for the sake of it. You don't want to shove something out because you think there's an appetite for it in that moment in time, if we did something it had to be good, and I genuinely think this is the best record we've made."

DOES IT SOUND LIKE CLASSIC FIGHTSTAR OR HAS THERE BEEN A PROGRESSION?

"The only thing I knew I wanted to do was write the majority of it on a seven-string. I felt the way to progress was to go lower! ESP gave me a sweet guitar, a Stef B-7 [used by Stephen Carpenter from Deftones], and the tunings on

THE BIG STORY

The queue for the Fightstar waxworks at Madame Tussauds was massive...



The reverse mullet: even worse in practice than it sounds in theory

it are awesome. We based a lot of [2009 album] *Be Human* around strings, but we didn't want to do that again, and this time we've gone into a much more electronic feel. Dan [Haigh, bass] and Al [Westaway, guitar/vocals] had just done their *Gunship* project, which really utilises synths, and actually most of my favourite moments come from using those. We'd be messing around with sounds and oscillators and stumble across something that was utterly impossible to replicate, and capturing that magic on the record was awesome."

SO, WHERE ARE YOU COMING FROM THEMATICALLY THIS TIME?

"There's an old saying that if you're doing something wrong, you do it behind God's back, and the idea is we're doing something good behind the Devil's back, which is what the record is. Rather than have a unifying theme, though, we wanted each song to have its own distinct personality. *Animal*, the track we're dropping today, is about werewolves, and there's one that was definitely inspired by my impending fatherhood. Everyone contributed lyrics this time, we'd sit there jamming and throwing ideas in – that sounds a bit *Some Kind Of Monster*, I know, but it wasn't quite like that (laughs)! It was just a really cool way to work."

IS EVERYONE LOOKING A BIT OLDER AND FATTER THAN THE LAST TIME YOU WERE IN THE STUDIO TOGETHER?

"Yeah, and we definitely feel a bit older and



Charlie, taking the 'Fight' part of their name a little too literally...

fatter (laughs)! It's funny, when we first got into a studio together we were basically kids, and we'd stay in the studio until three in the morning, smoking weed and drinking loads! It was a party, whereas now it's more like going to work – not in the sense that it feels like a chore, but we just take it a lot more seriously. And it's nice to clock off at seven and go have dinner with our wives!"

HAVE THERE BEEN ANY MOMENTS WHEN SOMEONE HAS HAD TO TELL YOU YOU'RE BEING A BIT TOO 'SOLO CHARLIE', INSTEAD OF 'FIGHTSTAR CHARLIE'?

"Occasionally! I incorporated a bit of my vocal style from my solo stuff, which is actually really nice, but when I did my first screamed vocal it sounded really weird! Our producer Carl [Bown, *Trivium*/BFMV] was like, 'Dude! That doesn't sound like your scream, you've been doing skiffle too long!' (Laughs)

I was thinking, 'Fuck, I hope I haven't forgotten how to scream!' I literally had to do it over and over again, and finally I reached a point where it was like, 'Ah! That's how I did it!'"

WILL IT BE A JOB BALANCING FIGHTSTAR WITH YOUR SOLO WORK?

"I think it'll be fine. Creatively, I think doing the two are really rewarding. Everyone in the band loves different kinds of music, and having outlets for that is a really positive thing, and I think having been able to utterly reinvest myself in *Fightstar* again will only make my solo work better. I'm just very happy with where I'm at right now."



Hear new single *Animal* on **Kerrang.com**



**"THIS IS THE BEST
ALBUM WE'VE
EVER MADE!"**

CHARLIE SIMPSON



When the weight of your
eyebrows is just too much...



PAINT YOUR ARTWORK

**CHARLIE EXPLAINS THE
NEW ALBUM SLEEVE...**

"The new artwork was done by Dan Conway, an amazing digital painter, who also did the artwork for [2006 debut] *Grand Unification* and [2007's] *One Day Son, This Will All Be Yours*. We've been big fans of his for a long time, and he showed us what he had been working on, and instantly we knew we would love to use it, and he kindly let us. It's basically showing hope in the midst of absolute destruction and desolation. We love that it ties in directly with the imagery of our first record, and it also kind of captures the spirit in which we made this one."



BMTH were ec-static about their new music

THE FEED
THIS WEEK IN **ROCK**

THAT'S THE S-P-I-R-I-T!

K! GO INSIDE **BRING ME THE HORIZON'S** NEW MUSIC AND FIND OUT WHY FRONTMAN **OLI SYKES** IS SINGING A HAPPY SONG...



IT'S HERE! IT'S finally here. Our first taste of new music from Bring Me The Horizon's upcoming album, *That's The Spirit* – due for release on September 11.

After a lengthy umbrella-filled viral campaign, the band finally dropped new track Happy Song on the Radio 1 Rock Show on July 12.

Keyboard player Jordan Fish lifted the veil on the band's mysterious umbrella stunts on the show, saying, "To be honest, we just started doing the social media thing because it was fun. We made some teasers and Oli hid a reversed message in one of them and someone figured it out. It was cool, so we just carried on doing it! It's not something we'd planned, we just

made it up as we went along!"

Introducing Happy Song – which sees a cheerleader-style chanted intro of 'S-P-I-R-I-T! Spirit! Let's hear it!' give way to arguably the catchiest chorus BMTH have ever written – Jordan talked about how Bring Me fans have come to expect the unexpected.

"For us it's fun that people think we're going to do something different on every album now," the keyboardist explained. "It makes it interesting for us, it's kind of expected now. What's the point in doing the same thing again?"

Jordan continued to pay tribute to the band's fans for welcoming a change and growth in the band's sound from album to album, before enigmatically breaking off.

"For us, this is about two things. The first is, it's testament to our fans that they're willing to be open to the stuff we want to try with this new music. The second thing is... oh, hold on, I've got to be careful and bite my tongue. This is going to be interesting! I can't say any more..."

On the same day as the song was premiered, frontman Oli Sykes married Hannah Pixie Snowden (see K! confidential over the page). Which may explain what he's so happy about right now. Congrats, **guys!**



Hear Happy Song on
Kerrang.com



THEY SAID WHAT?



"MY NEW SOLO HAS MARV FROM HOME ALONE AS THE HIGH NOTE!"

STEVEN BATTLE

OPM



OPM ARE STILL A BAND...

...and they have the worst new EP name ever: The embarrassingly titled *The Minge Dynasty* (yes, really) is due for release on September 25. The band are due to tour the UK in August, so expect new singles such as #Millionaire Like Me (urgh), alongside the classics, like Heaven Is A Halfpipe and... nope, that's it.

CROSSFAITH ANNOUNCE NEW ALBUM, XENO

Japanese rockers **Crossfaith** have unveiled that their fourth studio album will be titled *Xeno* and is due September 18 via UNFD. Frontman **Ken Kole** describes the album as being "a story of hope, failure, love, betrayal with death woven into its fabric". Hear the title track on **Kerrang.com** now.

THEY SAID WHAT?

"WHAT'S NEXT FROM ME? MORE NEW MUSIC!"

BILLY CORGAN, SMASHING PUMPKINS



GREAT WHITE SHARKS LOVE METAL!

We've long suspected that if sharks were fans of music, they'd love metal – but now we have proof. Actual scientists, in charge of filming Discovery Channel special *Bride Jaws*, used *Darkest Hour* to attract the majestic sea beasts. "The dense tones of heavy metal simulate the low frequencies of struggling fish," the experts explained, adding that, to a shark, metal "resonates like a dinner bell". Are you a shark? Do you want a subscription to *Kerrang!* for no-fin? Get in touch.



Number one *Darkest Hour* fan, Nibbles

ONE STEP CLOSER TO NEW MUSIC!

Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda has revealed that the band have already begun work on the follow-up to their 2014 album, *The Hunting Party*. "Yeah, we're already starting to throw ideas together," the rapper told *Absolutepunk*. "I'm always writing. It's always an ongoing process for me."

Mike shied away from saying what the new album would sound like, however, adding, "Chester [Bennington, vocals] and I joke that in the past we've made the mistake of telling people what the next record is going to sound like. Some people thought *Minutes To Midnight* was going to be really heavy!"



SUPERGROUP REVEAL ALBUM

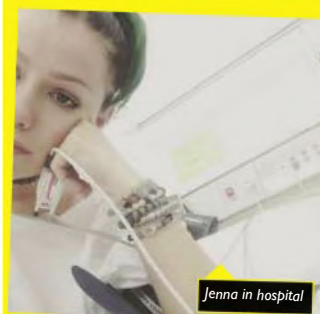
Supergroup **Metal Allegiance**, featuring the likes of **Randy Blythe**, **Philip H. Anselmo**, **Matt Heafy**, **Chris Jericho** and more, have announced that their album is set for September 18. It's sort of like *The Avengers* but way more metal.

TRENT REZNOR'S FIGHT CLUB THE MUSICAL?!

Nine Inch Nails frontman **Trent Reznor** is reportedly teaming up with *Fight Club* author **Chuck Palahniuk** and director **David Fincher** to create a *Fight Club* rock opera. There's still no word on who's playing the lead, though. Or should that be *leads*?

COREY TAYLOR: "AXL ROSE IS A DOUCHEBAG"

Not content with slamming Kanye West's ego, **Slipknot** frontman **Corey Taylor** has turned his attention to **Guns N' Roses** frontman **Axl Rose**. Speaking on *Opie Radio*, the singer blasted a caller who was furious about an incident where Corey reportedly placed his testicles on Axl's piano at a festival. "You know why there are really no original fucking members of Guns N' Roses left?" Corey asked. "Because he made them wait three fucking hours! You want an Appetite reunion? Tell him to fucking stop being a douchebag." We'll pass it on.



Jenna in hospital

TONIGHT ALIVE'S JENNA McDOUGALL HOSPITALISED

We were shocked to learn that **Tonight Alive** frontwoman **Jenna McDougall** was admitted to hospital following a severe allergic reaction last week. "I had an anaphylactic reaction and stayed in hospital for monitoring," explained the singer. "I'm all good but I had to use my EpiPen for the first time, despite carrying it with me every day of my life. Weird!"

The frontwoman is now out of hospital and recovering at home with her golden retriever, Maggie. From all at *Kerrang!*, get well soon, Jenna!

THEY SAID WHAT?



"I JUST HAVE TOO MANY BOOKS TO WRITE!"

GERARD WAY

MEGADETH: COUNT DOWN TO NEW ALBUM!

DAVE MUSTAINE TAKES K! BENEATH THE SKIN OF THE BAND'S NEW RECORD...

A new era of Megadeth draws near! The band have revealed that their new album, the as-yet-untitled follow-up to 2013's *Super Collider*, is due later this year. With *Lamb Of God*'s Chris Adler behind the kit, the album promises to be harder and faster than recent offerings – frontman Dave Mustaine explains...

HI, DAVE! SO, WHAT CAN WE EXPECT FROM THE ALBUM?

"Our fans are so varied, there are people who want the super-proggy Megadeth from the very beginning, some that want the thrashy speed stuff or others that love our melodic phase. To be honest, right now we're returning to more of a thrashy sound – I think a lot of people are gonna be happy!"

YOU RECORDED WITH CHRIS ADLER FROM LAMB OF GOD ON DRUMS, TOO...

"Yeah, Chris helped me with some of the arrangements on the record, too. There are also two cover songs on there. *Fear's* *Foreign Policy* and a *Budgie* song called *Melt The Ice Away!*"

DO YOU STILL FEEL PRESSURE WRITING AND RECORDING NEW MUSIC?

"Well, you have to think about where the genre is at the time and what our relevance is to the music world. People want us to use radio and video to get out our music out. Instead, we're saying, 'Fuck all that!' We're a thrash metal band, we're not used to writing radio songs... we're gonna stick to what we're good at!"

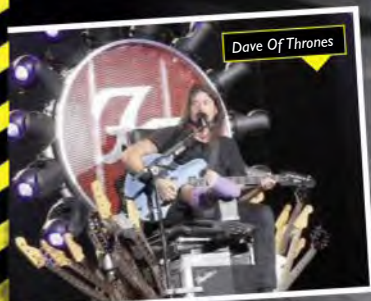


Firing laser orbs from his fingertips was just one of Dave's talents

Blitz Kids:
2006 – 2015

WORDS: AMIT SHARMA

"This is the best, the best, the best..."



Dave Of Thrones

LEARN TO RIDE!

Last week we were all dazzled by **Foo Fighters'** **Dave Grohl** on his mighty throne. This week we spotted the frontman riding a special scooter, designed to take the weight off his broken leg. It may be far from the grandeur of his onstage chair, but we'd still love to have a go on it. Members of the public were reportedly yelling "There goes my hero!" as Dave whizzed passed them. We may have just made that up. Ding ding!



BARDY HOLLY!

It's back to the shack-speare for **Weezer** frontman **Rivers Cuomo**, who has been throwing **Shakespeare**-themed parties in LA. The events let fans celebrate the playwright's works through productions and film-screenings.



Velma, Shaggy, Fred and Daphne were looking a bit peaky

I WAS MADE FOR SCOOPYDOO



Zoinks! Did you know **Kiss** are set to star in a feature-length episode of **Scooby-Doo**? Well, you do now! **Scooby-Doo And KISS: Rock And Roll Mystery** is heading to screens this month. We predict that the bad guy would've gotten away with it if it weren't for those pesky Kiss... right?

SPOTTED

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No! It's **Rob Damiani** and **Matt Donnelly** of **Don Broco** hurtling through the sky with **Dan Flint** from **You Me At Six**. Wait, what?! The trio joined hundreds of fundraisers for Teenage Cancer Trust, breaking the world record for most tandem jumps in a day (403 jumps, in case you were wondering)! Elsewhere **Bring Me The Horizon's Oli Sykes** tied the knott with **Hannah Pixie Snowden** (congrats, guys!), and **Benji** and **Joel Madden** of **Good Charlotte** were spied as guest judges on **The Voice** in Australia. Lifestyles of the rich and famous, eh?



PANDORA BY RAY ZELL Rayzell.com



Fightstar

OCTOBER 2015

17 London Troxy

18 Southampton Uni

19 Exeter Lemongrove

21 Wolves Wulfrun Hall

22 Norwich Waterfront

24 Manchester Ritz

25 Newcastle Northumbria Uni

27 Edinburgh Liquid Rooms

28 Aberdeen Garage

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ROCK CHART

WELCOME TO THE BATTLE, **BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE!** YOU'RE NOW JOINING THE LIKES OF **PARKWAY DRIVE** AND **SLIPKNOT** TO KNOCK **MUSE** FROM THE TOP SPOT.....

	WEEKS ON CHART	HIGHEST POSITION	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1	5	1	MUSE	Mercy	WARNER RECORDS
2	7	2	NECK DEEP	Can't Kick Up The Roots	HOPELESS RECORDS
3	8	3	DON BROCO	Automatic	SONY
4	9	2	ROYAL BLOOD	Little Monster	IMPERIAL GALACTIC
5	8	5	YOUNG GUNS	Daylight	VIRGIN EMI RECORDS
6	7	2	MALLORY KNOX	Heart & Desire	SONY
7	9	5	SLEEPING WITH SIRENS	The Strays	EPTAPH RECORDS
8	2	8	PARKWAY DRIVE	Vice Grip	EPTAPH RECORDS
9	3	9	SLIPKNOT	Killpop	ROADRUNNER RECORDS
10	8	2	ENTER SHIKARI	Torn Apart	ENTER SHIKARI
11	11	1	FALL OUT BOY	Uma Thurman	ISLAND RECORDS
12	7	3	WE ARE THE OCEAN	Holy Fire	BING RIGHTS MANAGEMENT
13	1	13	BFMV	You Want A Battle?	RCA RECORDS
14	3	14	WE CAME AS ROMANS	Regenerate	SPINEFARM RECORDS
15	10	8	AS IT IS	Cheap Shots & Setbacks	FEARLESS RECORDS
16	2	16	ONLY RIVALS	Sing	SO RECORDINGS
17	19	4	PVRIS	St. Patrick	RISE RECORDS
18	5	18	FOREVER NEVER	Never Giving Up	FOREVER NEVER
19	8	10	SLAVES	Cheer Up London	VIRGIN EMI RECORDS
20	11	1	MUSE	Dead Inside	WARNER RECORDS

WINSTON McCALL, PARKWAY DRIVE

WHY DID YOU DECIDE ON VICE GRIP AS THE FIRST SINGLE FROM IRE?

"We wanted to shock people. Every other release, we have always given people exactly what they expected. This time around we wanted to make people second guess what they think Parkway can sound like. Plus, good luck getting that guitar riff out of your head!"

SO, YOU'RE HAPPY WITH THE REACTION SO FAR?

"Yes, of course! It's mind

blowing. We watched this song go from unknown on the day it was released, to the biggest song of the set by the end of the tour. That's pretty insane considering the album isn't even out yet!"

FINALLY, WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO JUMP OUT OF A PLANE FOR THE VIDEO?

"The song is about overcoming your fears and facing life. What better way than literally putting your life on the line!"

STEPHEN ARKINS, ONLY RIVALS

YOU'RE IN THE ROCK CHART WITH SOME HUGE BANDS – HOW DOES THAT FEEL?

"It feels pretty special! Fall Out Boy have always been an inspiration!"

WHAT INSPIRED THE LYRICS IN THE SONG?

"It's a song about anxiety. The line 'I carve and cut the paper with the thoughts I find' is about

how I use song writing and lyrics to escape, and lay down my anxieties to try and cope with them."

DO YOU HAVE A SECRET ABOUT THE SONG?

"At one point the intro guitar riff was actually the chorus, which, thinking back on it, is strange!"

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KERRANG!
ROCK CHART!



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NEWS

L - R: Jarrett Dougherty (drums),
Marissa Paternoster (vocals/
guitar) and King Mike (bass)

FRESH BLOOD
ROCK'S BREAKING BANDS

SCREAMING FEMALES

HOT LICKS AND INDIE-ROCK RIFFS FROM NEW JERSEY



SCREAMING FEMALES? THAT LOOKS LIKE A SHREDDING FEMALE TO ME...

Quite. Specifically, that's Marissa Paternoster, the fulcrum of New Jersey indie-rock trio Screaming Females. She's arguably the most exciting guitar player in alternative rock today. American indie-rock bible *Spin* actually declared her the 77th Best Guitarist *Of All Time* in a 2012 list feature! Fans of Corgan-esque cosmic wailing and Pixies-esque squawling may well have a brand-new guitar hero. Her talent commands respect. "Sometimes it feels like guitar shops are constructed to make women feel small, incapable and foolish," says Marissa. "Not knowing any better, as a small girl, I went in shops hoping that I might meet some nice people who were also fans of rock'n'roll. Instead, I found myself rendered invisible, until I picked up a guitar and played, and then I was only met with sentences like the infamous, 'You're pretty good for a little girl!' It made me wonder if I could ever be considered a capable player because my female body was like a doomed vessel in the eyes of many. Thankfully, I was lucky to meet a great wealth of like-minded humans. I'm glad that I didn't give up, because I'm very grateful to be able to play guitar for people."

OKAY, SHE RULES! CAN YOU TELL ME MORE ABOUT THE REST OF THE BAND?

Marissa is ably assisted by King Mike on bass and Jarrett Dougherty on drums. Friends since college (and in Mike and Marissa's case, since high school), they're now on their sixth album. Don't think that Marissa's prowess on guitar negates her songwriting, though. Their last release, February's incredible *Rose Mountain*, is one of the best collections of

all! He suggested that the label try to release a book of my artwork à la Ray Pettibon with SST Records in the '80s. So, we did, and it went well. Then we did it again, and it also went well. I'm working on the third book now!" Mike adds: "Joe told us that he would actually kill himself if he couldn't put out our album. Only he knows if he was serious about that..."

TENSE. ACTUALLY... I THINK I'VE SEEN . . . IS LOT BEFORE, ON FACEBOOK!

...you might have stumbled upon the band's recently viral, quite frankly breathtaking run through of Taylor Swift's *Make It Off*, recorded for American blog *W Club*. "Doing that cover has made me sympathetic to Alien Ant Farm!" laughs Jarrett. "People love to hear music they already know. It makes sense to me that our most viewed videos on YouTube are cover songs. I just hope a few of those people check out what we really do." Let's second that sentiment. Screaming Females are further proof that the American indie-rock scene is beginning to roar again.

"GUITAR SHOPS MAKE WOMEN FEEL SMALL"

that band. There's an incredible songwriter, too (check out *Noun*, Marissa's home recording project, although we think she's just showing off now). An incredible artist, too (okay, she really *is* showing off). "Joe from our label, Don Giovanni Records, is a very close friend of mine," says Marissa. "He probably owns more of my artwork than anyone else. I don't know where he keeps it

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

FOR FANS OF:

Sleater-Kinney, Nirvana and Dinosaur Jr.

HEAR:

Ripe, which you can download free at Kerrang.com.

MORE INFO: Facebook.com/screamingfemales

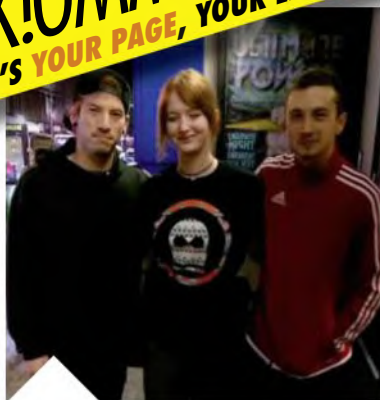
CHECK OUT:

Their gross but awesome video for *Hopeless*. **DON'T MISS:** Screaming Females and more killer bands on Alex Baker's *Fresh Blood* show on Wednesdays at 10pm on Kerrang! Radio.



To hear them, get yourself over to **Kerrang.com**





BLINKYFACE

"When I blinked in a photo with Twenty One Pilots... that's definitely a highlight of mine!" says **@brendonburiato**, who must've misread the title of the new album, *BLURRYface*...



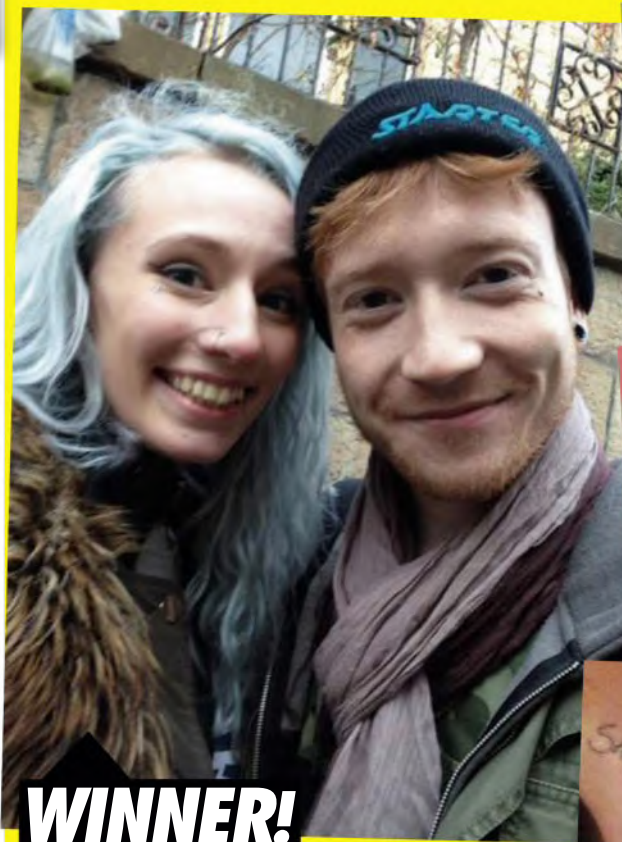
ANDY BAKESACK

Here's a great pic of a BVB member sitting on **@aimswilkinson's** cake. Andy once sat on our cake. He had to go buy us another and a new pair of leather trousers! Awful, it was.



AND THE TILLS START TO RING

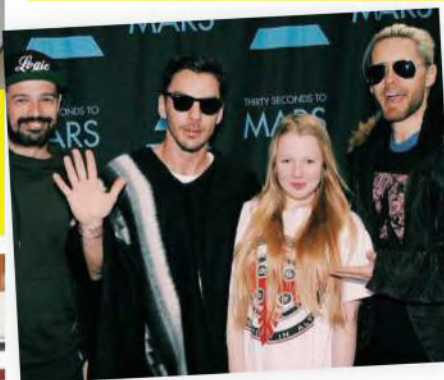
Lucky **@mason_mallo**y bumped into Bring Me The Horizon's Jordan Fish. We hope you took full advantage of the opportunity to ask him, "Can you fill... can you fill my cart?"



WINNER!

IT'S A HARD KNOX LIFE

"Me with Mallory," **@littlefoxes** tells us. "And that's my Mallory tattoo... It's Mikey's handwriting!" We just hope you're prepared to turn all journalist and grill the guys at one of their shows in September/October. Get the Qs ready!



SELFIE SQUAD

How often can you say you had a photo with the Joker. Like, the actual JOKER! **@NancyZzzonked**. can! We reckon Jared muttered, "I'm not gonna kill ya... I'm just gonna pose for this photo... really... really... happily!" Then leaped off to go fight Batman. Yep. That's what happened. Fo sho.



A PART OF US

@saskiaorsi bumped into Coronation Street's Ken Barlow. We do love that show, but we're more an EastEnders type of mag. Eh? BEN Barlow? Ahh... Neck Deep's bouncy frontman. That makes more sense. If Neck Deep's your bag, turn to p22 for out ND bonanza!



VIC VAN GOGH

BREAKING NEWS: the reason behind PTV's album taking so long to get to our ears discovered to be due to **@suicidetendanci** having Vic pose for this portrait!

NEXT WEEK WIN!

A GUITAR LESSON FROM BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE!

Bumped into any rockstars at Maccy Ds? Maybe you shared a ski lift with Behemoth? Whatever you wanna shout about, if you've got a photo to prove it and wanna share it, all you need to do is tweet or Instagram using #Kommunity. The best will get tickets to an upcoming **BFMV** show (see Gig Guide for dates), where you will also be taught some meaty riffs by **Matt Tuck**, riffmaster general!





The changing face(s) of Paramore: (from left) Hunter Lamb, who would replace Jason Bynum in 2005 before leaving in 2007, Josh Farro, Hayley Williams, Zac Farro and Jeremy Davis

COVER STORY

I THINK WE HAVE AN

ANNIVERSARY

ALL WE
KNOW IS
FALLING AT

10

TEN YEARS AGO, FIVE KIDS THAT WENT BY THE NAME OF **PARAMORE** JUMPED IN THEIR CAR AND LEFT HOME TO MAKE THEIR FIRST-EVER RECORD TOGETHER. AND NO-ONE COULD EVER HAVE IMAGINED THE RIDE THAT IT WOULD TAKE THEM ALL ON...

WORDS: TOMAS DOYLE PHOTOS: PAUL HARRIES, ASHLEY MAILE

It is a truth universally acknowledged that even the greatest of journeys begin with the smallest of steps. Of course, in 2015, Paramore are one of the most globally recognisable modern rock acts around, but they, too, had to lace up their boots and take the first strides out of their pop-punk front door at some point. In fact, it was only a decade ago in the small town of Franklin, Tennessee, Paramore were little more than a twinkle in a teenage Hayley Williams' eye – a young girl from mid-west nowheresville.

With that in mind, their debut album, *All We Know Is Falling* – which this week celebrates its 10th birthday – was a relatively modest affair. Recorded on a small budget in just a few short weeks, it may have lacked the polish of the band's later efforts, but it was a flare-gun-bright statement of intent that introduced the world to a flame-haired megastar who would become an icon for her generation and her band of brothers – at the time comprised of Zac and Josh Farro on drums and guitar respectively, bassist Jeremy Davis and second guitarist Jason Bynum.

It was a record that would signpost the melodic flair, the emotional depth and the vocal dexterity that would shortly become the band's stock-in-trade. It was a record that would turn heads and fire hearts in equal measure. It was a record that paved the way for Paramore to become the all-conquering behemoth they are today.

For all the eventual glory, though, it is fair to say that *All We Know...* was an album made under its own share of stresses and scrutinies: the band's major label bosses at Atlantic Records were keen to make the most of their new signing, and there was, as we shall see, a fair deal of internal line-up shifting – the expected growing pains of teenage years played out across 10 fizzing, frenetic tracks.

In broader terms, too, it was a landmark moment: the band's emergence would signal a new wave of female-prominence in pop-punk. As alien as it feels to say now, Hayley Williams' presence was as unique as it was refreshing back in 2005.

Indeed, before their maiden LP was even sent to the pressing factory, Paramore were causing a stir in industry circles. And with Franklin mere miles from the legendary 'Music City' of Nashville – home to the offices of many of the world's biggest record labels, not to mention the HQ of Gibson guitars – it was only a matter of time before the whispers about the teenage girl and her garage band of young Christians became a storm of astonishingly intense proportions...

HAYLEY WILLIAMS: "What is cool about Nashville is that there is a lot of different kinds

MEET THE GANG

THE KEY PLAYERS IN OUR *ALL WE KNOW IS FALLING* STORY...

HAYLEY WILLIAMS
Paramore
vocalist,
lyricist and
frontwoman



JEREMY DAVIS
Paramore
bassist, who
briefly quit
in '05



ZAC FARRO
Founding
drummer,
who left the
band
in 2010



JASON BYNUM
Founding
guitarist who
left the band
in late 2005



JAMES PAUL WISNER
Producer
who worked
on *All We
Know...*



STEVE ROBERTSON
A&R who
signed the
band to their
first deal



KEVIN LYMAN
Mr Warped
Tour. Early
Paramore
supporter

of music – there's a lot of indie music and a lot of punk rock. Kids start bands at age 13 here, it's cool. And there's more record labels per head than probably anywhere else in the world!"

ZAC FARRO: "I think being a young band helps to connect with fans, 'cause kids look up to you, but at the same time think it's cool that you're the same age, if not younger, than them. Like, 'Dude that's so awesome, I'm older than you guys, no way!!' It [was] definitely a great feeling to know that kids older and the same age could connect with us."

STEVE ROBERTSON: "With any band there has to be the seed of something great. Hayley was 15 years old when we signed Paramore and Zac was 13. We didn't create Paramore. We recognised a young band that had the potential to be massive worldwide and we simply helped to create opportunities for them... Hayley wanted to make sure we knew exactly who she was, that her favourite bands were Jimmy Eat World, Underoath and Sunny Day Real Estate. She wanted to make sure that we didn't look at her as some straight-to-Top 40 pop princess. She wanted to make sure that she and her band got the chance to show

**"I THOUGHT THAT
IF I CRIED
ENOUGH, JEREMY
MIGHT CHANGE
HIS MIND ABOUT
LEAVING..."**

• HAYLEY WILLIAMS •

what they could do as a rock band writing their own songs. Which was great, because I'm a rock guy and understand that genre and that approach better than anything."

A deal with Atlantic was swiftly inked, but it was decided that, given Hayley's passion for authentic rock, it would be best for

the band's initial output to be released via an indie label. Fueled By Ramen seemed a natural fit, owned, as it is, by Less Than Jake's Vinnie Fiorello and sporting, as it did, a host of the hottest names on the scene, from The Academy Is... to Panic! At The Disco. The plan, as Steve Robertson notes, was to allow fans to "discover the band without it being shoved down their throats. We lit the long fuse to ensure this band had a career. Given the kind of bands that they were into and the music that they were starting to write at the very beginning, we had an idea that the Warped Tour crowd would love this band and they agreed, so we went in that direction."

With the suits lined up and ready to push the band, the teenagers headed to Orlando, Florida, where they would begin the three-week process of recording *All We Know Is Falling* in earnest.

HAYLEY WILLIAMS: "We recorded demos in Nashville before, so we had an idea of what it would be like and how it would go. But working with such amazing producers like James Paul Wisner and Mike Green had a lot to do with how much we grew as a band during the recording process of this record."



CASTING A SHADOW

INSIDE THAT ICONIC ALL WE KNOW... ARTWORK...



Paramore's merch wasn't up to much in the early days...

Jeremy Davis' departure from Paramore, in the middle of the recording of *All We Know Is Falling*, rocked the foundations of a young band many miles from home. While the impact of Jeremy's departure is inked throughout the album's opening track – and inspired the debut's title – it's also quite literally visible on its sleeve. The simple red sofa – which also featured on the back of the album's



sleeve, with the four remaining band members sat upon it (right) – might not have been much of a statement on shop shelves from a young band looking to make their mark. Though it contained a secret insight into their inner turmoil with the shadow of a man, representing the departed Jeremy and the shadow the split cast over his bandmates,



STEVE ROBERTSON: "We wanted their creativity presented in the best possible way, so we gave them creative freedom, and then they just blossomed. It was so much more unique than what was originally presented."

JAMES PAUL WISNER: "I remember vividly that when I first met Hayley, all she could tell me was that Underoath's *They're Only Chasing Safety* record was her favourite and, of course, I produced that, too. That was excellent because, for me as a producer, it works for the band to be open, and if they're really

appreciating your past work, you can gel together. That was a big part of what made it flow really well – there was a mutual trust and respect there."

It's certainly true that once the band reached the studio, the songs that emerged were full of more guts than anyone, particularly the band's record label might have expected. From *Here We Go Again*'s looping disco beat, to *Whoa*'s bombastic and emotionally pregnant swoon, to eventual first single *Pressure*'s lung-bursting chorus, this was a rock record that refused to pull punches while retaining an instinctive sense of rise and fall that the band would eventually master in full.

Unfortunately, though, as is so often the case, the path to creative green pastures is rarely smooth. For one founder member of the band in particular, the rush of being in what was quickly becoming a full-time, all-consuming project was to proving to be a little too much...

HAYLEY WILLIAMS: "We didn't expect to move to Orlando, write and record a whole record and then be out on tour within a few months. It was really hard. Hard on all of us. [A few days after we got to the recording studio] Jeremy got us together in a huddle and was like, 'Hey, guys, I need to talk to you... I've bought a plane ticket and I'm heading back to Nashville.' We were like, 'Er... okay.' We were due to be playing a showcase that day and I just remember crying and being so, so bummed. I kind of thought, in the back of my head, 'Maybe if I cry long enough, he will change his mind...' I remember talking to him on the phone after that and he was like, 'I got a job at

Domino's, man, I'm delivering pizzas!' and I was like, 'That's not gonna last...'"

JEREMY DAVIS: "There were a number of things that were wearing on me. We were practicing so much and, between that and going to church all the time, it was really hard for me to even get a job, so I was in debt and just got scared, I think. I got home and realised how much I sucked at everything, though!"

For the band, now a man and an old friend down, the task of pressing on was a difficult but crucial one. And as they remained in the studio, laying down track after track, the sudden, shocking departure of Jeremy became a focus of both lyrical and musical inspiration. Indeed, the album's opening, pseudo title-track is inspired by the four-stringer's decision to make the long journey back to Tennessee without his bandmates or, seemingly, anything else to look forward to. 'Now we can follow you back home but we won't / Is this what you had waited for? / Just to be alone?' is as telling a refrain as it's possible to imagine a 15-year-old writing about a lost bandmate (and then there's that artwork – see panel above).

Despite all this, though, once the amps were plugged in and the microphones were on, it was time to get down to the business of building the foundations of their dream careers.

JAMES PAUL WISNER: "I mean, the band were just a pleasure to work with. I had them in the studio for about 10 days [the remainder of the album was completed with producer Mike Green], but the whole thing could not have gone more smoothly. Zac was only 14 years old at the time but he was just a great drummer, man; he had serious chops. With Hayley, too, if I gave a suggestion during the tracking stages – and we worked on things like song structures a fair amount in the studio – she'd just nail it. There was a confidence and self-assuredness to them that was great, not cocky and always respectful, but they had a belief in themselves which was almost impossible to shake. The process itself was pretty straight-ahead, given the style of music the band were going for at the time, my job was just to make it rock, basically! The funny thing is that when you're making an album, you aren't really focussed on what might happen way down the line or the size of the crowds some of those songs might get played to. By the same token, though, looking back now, it was so obvious the potential that they had. It's been fantastic to see her grow into the megastar she is today."

JASON BYNUM: "I had just the best time recording



Jeremy Davis takes the load off his feet on, er, Josh Farro as Paramore come to London, October 2006

the album. I remember it as a period of real creativity for myself and everyone else, and the people we were working with were extremely talented, which we were very grateful for. There was a sense, at least to me, that we were all working towards something that would prove to be pretty special. Even with Jeremy gone – and we all missed him when he wasn't there – there was something about the band at that stage that meant that, although we were basically just kids, we felt like we could take on the world. And we did!"

With the album complete, the band were thrust into the world of touring at full force. Pleasingly, Jeremy would return to the fold some months later, his head cleared and resolutely refocused on all things Paramore. The next task at hand: conveying the power of the shiny debut album they had made in the live arena, which meant, as it has for generations of pop-punks before them and since, heading out on Warped Tour.

KEVIN LYMAN: "The minute you met Hayley, you knew she was going to be a star. People connected with her, and particularly the female audience that Warped is so about. They were just kids back then, but you saw that spark in them. They worked hard, too, handing out flyers and chalking their stage time on the sidewalk so people would come see them. They were as punk as anybody. In fact, ironically, the first time I ever saw Paramore wasn't even at Warped Tour; I saw Hayley playing on her own at Taste Of Chaos [in February 2005] where she was on just before Killswitch Engage, imagine that! But somehow this young kid with just an acoustic guitar held her own against all that!"

JASON BYNUM: "We got great exposure that year at Warped Tour. We made a lot of new fans and there was a sense that something was definitely happening. We were only playing on this pretty small stage for most of the time, but the crowds were growing bigger and bigger each day. I guess this was when word of mouth was really powerful and the internet had just started playing its role in that."

ZAC FARRO: "I grew up on the road – we went and did LA showcases when I was 13! When you sit back from it, that was a great experience in my life, and I'm completely thankful for it. I met so many

awesome people. One of my greatest friends lives in New Zealand now – how would I ever have met him if it wasn't for touring? One of my best friends lives in Manchester, UK, and one of my closest friends lives in Kansas City, Missouri, eight or nine hours away from Nashville. [It's] things like that... The friendships I've made for a lifetime and the places I've gone and experiences of shows I've played."

JAMES PAUL WISNER: "I remember seeing them do a few live shows at the time and Hayley's stage presence, even at the age of 15, was unbelievable. Combine that with the fact that she was one of the best singers I have ever worked with and it was quite remarkable. She owned it, y'know, she was clearly a star – I mean, occasionally she'd be up there doing her thing and she'd look right at me. There was just a directness about her which set her apart, and she was so young at this time. Whether she was feeling fear or not, she definitely was not showing it!"

KEVIN LYMAN: "They were always in the middle

of everything, too. They'd sit in their booth and sign autographs for anyone who wanted one, and take photos with anyone who wanted one. It was always about the band, too: I remember one of the first photoshoots she did on her own without those guys was on Warped and it was a really big deal for her to do that – a lot of thought went into it."

HAYLEY WILLIAMS: "Touring on our debut album held some of the greatest experiences I'll ever know. Seeing the country for the first time from the back of our van, getting kicked out of venues after our sets 'cause we weren't old enough to really hang there."

From there, a tour of the UK followed, including a 5K-rated debut London show, which led us to declare that "Paramore have a shot at being one of the biggest bands in rock". And while, in the end, the three singles the album spawned – Pressure, Emergency and All We Know... – all failed to chart (and it wouldn't be until 2007's Riot! that the band would achieve mainstream success and All We

Know... would receive Gold certification) it was the foundation that All We Know... laid which would stand them in such good stead for the decade to come.

For fans – and there would be many, many fans – songs such as Pressure and Franklin have become to-the-heart favourites that still crackle with the same spark they did when they sprung into life 10 years ago. These are songs which remain some of the most viscerally engaging moments in a catalogue bursting with the proverbial seams with quality.

Of course, even after the release of a deftly constructed and vigorously released debut, few could have predicted where the future lay for Paramore only a few short years later – it remains, though, a shimmering first step on a journey which shows no signs of coming to a halt any time soon.

If all Paramore once knew was falling, then the 10 years that have followed their first steps out into the bullring have only served to teach them what rapid ascension to the very top feels like.

No pressure. No emergency. Just the start of a legend.

WARPED TOUR RETURNS TO THE UK THIS OCTOBER. SEE THE GIG GUIDE

"TOURING ALL WE KNOW IS FALLING HELD SOME OF THE GREATEST EXPERIENCES I'LL EVER KNOW"

• HAYLEY WILLIAMS •



One day, you'll headline Reading & Leeds. Honest... (from left) Hunter, Zac, Hayley, Josh and Jeremy

Head to **Kerrang.com** now as we continue the birthday celebrations for All We Know Is Falling!

PARAVISION!

DIRECTOR SHANE BLAKE EXPLAINS BRINGING PARAMORE'S EARLIEST SINGLES TO LIFE...

"I'd done some videos for [Fueled By Ramen head honcho] John Janick, and one day he sent me this song, **PRESSURE**, and I felt an instant affinity for what these kids were doing. I first met them the day we shot the video in an old candy factory in Lebanon, Tennessee, and I'd never connected so strongly with a band on set before. I wanted to make a fun video, but

also one that visualised that everything about Paramore was coming to a head. You have the two characters whose lives blow up in their faces, and everything's about that building pressure, which overloads

with the water at the end. "The idea behind the **EMERGENCY** video that we did next was that as it starts, the emergency has already happened, and you're looking at these beat-up, depressed kids

and wondering what the hell happened to cause this. Then you realise it's a facade, it's the making of a video, but going through the process of making a video can be a crisis, because it's long and it's difficult and you play so hard your fingers bleed! But actually making it was the opposite, it was awesome and so much fun! It was the camaraderie that really stayed with me."



Pressure



Emergency



paramore

Hayley considered whether a lifetime of being asked about being a girl in a band was really worth this 'fame' thing

INTERVIEW

IN AT THE



Warped's roadtest of the new Human Stage had mixed results

DEPEND

THEY'VE CONQUERED **WARPED TOUR**, BUT NOW, CAN **NECK DEEP** TAKE OVER THE WORLD? **BEN BARLOW** GETS READY TO SINK OR SWIM...

WORDS: TOMAS DOYLE PHOTOS: ANDREW LIPOVSKY

The Ride Of Steel rollercoaster that sits on the edge of Darien Lake, Buffalo, stands at over 200ft tall and boasts a ride speed that clocks in at over 70mph. It is a beautifully terrifying feat of engineering that's regularly voted one of the Top 20 'coasters in the world by hardened adrenaline junkies who get their rocks off on spine-melting thrills and hair-elongating drops.

Right now, though, it is in the Top One things scaring the living hell out of Neck Deep.

You see, today the U.S. leg of Warped Tour – the legendary travelling punk circus that Neck Deep currently find themselves a part of – is passing through a venue that just happens to have a theme park attached to it, and the Wrexham pop-punks are grabbing a mid-afternoon break from the hustle and bustle of the main tour to have a go on what guitarist Matt West eloquently describes as “the ultimate pant-shitter”. Having been dragged along for the ride, Kerrang! can confirm that it's an accurate proclamation.

But this colossal 'coaster, and indeed Warped Tour itself, are neatly symbolic of what is happening for a band who are enjoying unprecedented levels of success on both sides of the Atlantic, even before the release of their hotly anticipated, Jeremy McKinnon-produced new album, *Life's Not Out To Get You*, next month. Massive highs, summer vibes, vein-tingling thrills: welcome to planet Neck Deep.

Rewind a few hours and the quintet are taking to Warped's main stage – to which they have been promoted after the huge crowds they've drawn the previous days – in the sticky afternoon heat.

“I think today's show is going to be a solid

one,” grins drummer Dani Washington, playfully underselling the eventual scale and energy of an increasingly enormous crowd who ravenously hang on the band's every word.

“It's been incredible how many people have been coming out to watch on this tour so far,” adds frontman Ben Barlow. “I feel like we're standing out a lot more now than we did when we did Warped Tour last year. We're feeling really positive about the whole thing.”

Indeed positivity, it turns out, has proved something of a theme for Neck Deep, and in particular Ben, of late.

“I want kids to know that life isn't out to get them,” smiles the singer, reinforcing his obvious and genuine meaning with a fulsome nod of his head. “That's really the whole point of this new album, that positivity about life. I had a realisation a few years ago that I am the only person in control of my life, and I want other people to see that, too. I don't ever want to be a band that kids cut themselves to. Like, I've had to be careful with some of the lyrics I used in certain songs this time around – I didn't want to use a scar as a metaphor in a song in case people take that literally. I don't ever want to hear of a kid [harming themselves] for us; it would make me feel like I'd failed them. I don't want to be part of the problem, I want to be part of the solution. I want to write songs that people wanna stay alive to.”

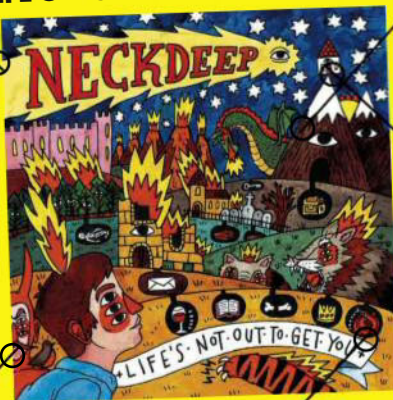
In the distance, the latest group of thrill-seekers balance at the Ride Of Steel's peak, bracing for the breakneck drop that awaits mere seconds away. Whether they can handle the ride, they're about to find out. And so, too, are Neck Deep...

The meaning of **LIFE**

BEN PICKS APART **LIFE'S NOT OUT TO GET YOU'S** BANANAS SLEEVE

HAND-DRAWN STYLE

BEN SAYS: "It's done by a guy called Ricardo Cavolo and I've been into this stuff for quite a long time. I knew going into this album that I wanted it to have a really hand-drawn feel and his stuff just blew my mind, he's got a really unique style. I wanted it to be something totally unlike any other artwork that's going on in the scene."



THE DEVIL ON YOUR SHOULDER

BEN SAYS: "I like to think of the Devil in the bottom left-hand corner as a statement about not letting the Devil on your shoulder win and always trying to do the right thing, no matter how hard that might seem."

SNAKES UNDER THE GROUND

BEN SAYS: "Amazingly, without even hearing the record, Ricardo put these snakes in to the piece. There's actually a song called Serpents on the record, so it fits in perfectly. Similarly, there's a line about 'Fixing wounds with love and wine', and there's a glass of wine in there, purely by coincidence!"

DRAGON

BEN SAYS: "Me and Ricardo have actually worked on a comic book based on this artwork. We've turned the lyrics from the record into this big story about a guy called June who faces all these obstacles throughout his life – including slaying the dragon!"

HOUSE ON THE HILL

BEN SAYS: "In the comic book [see above], June's ultimate aim is to get to the house on the hill despite all the odds. It's really a metaphor for the idea of always persevering and trying your best, which runs throughout the entire record."

One of the many duties for a Warped Tour band, especially one working on the scale that Neck Deep currently are, is meeting and greeting fans, signing T-shirts, CDs and posters, and posing for seemingly endless selfies.

Buffalo's signing session sees a queue snaking wildly from the band's merch tent and off into the middle-distance. Indeed, part of what makes both Warped as an event and Neck Deep as a band so special is the esteem in which they hold the people who make all this possible: the fans.

"If any kid wants to come and have a picture or get something signed and say hi, then that's awesome by me," says Ben. "If kids look up to me for the right reasons then that is great and I hope I can inspire people in some way. If you talk to [Warped founder] Kevin Lyman, he always says exactly the same thing, about helping the next generation through. I look at a band like The WonderYears, who have been doing this for 10 years and who we all really respect. The way they talk about things, the way they deal with their problems, they are total professionals. Being respected like that would be a real goal for us."

Yet Ben is not the ever-gregarious, forever-charismatic frontman he might seem. In fact, the man that has over the past three years been thrust into the spotlight and told to run before many bands have even learned to walk, he is a man prone to enjoying moments alone, away from both the assembled throng and even his own band.

"Since being in the band I've definitely come out of my shell," reasons Ben. "But I still don't really like doing crazy public relations shit all the time. I don't like always being in the public eye and I don't want to always be this public figure. Yes, it can be weird to have so many people with their focus on me, trying to figure me out constantly and hanging off my every move. But what can I do? It's what I signed up for."

Is it really what you signed up for, though, Ben?

"Okay, I didn't sign up for it when we first started the band, but when we started to get some recognition I guess I kinda accepted that, as the singer, I would be 'the voice' of the band," he admits.

"But I'd be lying if I said that I hadn't contemplated whether – even though I know making music is what I want to do – I want to be this 'band guy', y'know. Some of the shit that people say and expect from you is fucking stupid. There have been times where all I've ever wanted is just to feel normal. I don't ever want people to see me as 'Ben from Neck Deep'. Before I was in the band, no-one gave a flying fuck about who I was and I kinda preferred it that way. Now, though, we have all this crazy attention and... I just don't really feel normal. Ever. That's why I love going home and seeing my family, because it reminds me that I'm not this piece of meat that people can think whatever they want about."



After losing his last mic, Ben quickly went about retrieving a spare from his lower intestine

Take a walk through today's rolling grass amphitheatre venue, and the senses are pounded. There's the smell of oversized pretzels and curly fries barraging your nose, the ever-present background hum of bass and cracking snare drums, the zig-zagging lines of kids queuing to exchange a fleeting hello with their heroes.

Even amongst all this, though, it's impossible not to notice the waves of fans in Neck Deep merch at every turn: T-shirts, shorts and, even in this weather, beanie hats all present and correct in spades.

To see a group explode into life with such force, and grassroots popular acclaim – especially a British band in America – is real once-in-a-blue-moon stuff.

"It's been a pretty quick ascent for us so far and history is littered with bands who have had a quick ascent and just as fast a descent," squints Ben against the blazing afternoon sun. "Really, though, the things that throw those bands off are things that we don't get too wrapped up in. None of us are crazy party guys, none of us are drug addicts or alcoholics; we all have girlfriends and we all have our heads screwed on straight. Sure, our band in general is in a real learning phase, figuring out where we fit in all of this and working out how to progress, but I think if we keep making consistent records, the rest of it will look after itself."

Yet while from the outside looking in it might seem like the climb to a packed, bouncing Warped main stage has been a flawlessly simple one for the quintet, Ben is quick to point out that there has been a fair share of salt to go along with the sugar. Salt that has contributed a secondary, more internal inspiration for the band's new material.

"A part of the new album is about how I think our band got to where we are, which is by going through shit times and working hard to turn those things around and being a better person for it," extols the singer. "There were times at the start of the band where I thought, 'Fuck, I didn't know I'd be away touring this much and apart from people I love.' All that shit can get to you and I've definitely contemplated what I'm doing with my life at a few times and if it's truly what I wanted with my life. But everything I have now, being on this tour, is because of having a positive outlook and that's the main thing I want to share with people at this point in my life and with this new record."

And so, as the sun begins to set on Buffalo and roadies from all corners of the festival begin to pack down all manner of technical equipment, the band's eyes begin to focus on the following day's show. Because Neck Deep are always thinking about what to do next, and how to do it better: The attention of the world hasn't given them any other choice.

"When we came out of doing [2014's debut album] *Wishful Thinking*, I remember being happy with it but really feeling like I knew I could write better lyrics and melodies," finishes Ben. "With this new album, though, I feel like we've taken a massive step forward and it's going to prove a few things to people that have doubted us in the past. I'm very confident in what we've produced, and I'm not ashamed to say that. I don't think we've perfected the craft, but we're getting there."

As the slow clank of Ride Of Steel's 200ft climb plays out for the final time this evening, Neck Deep survey their surroundings. With an average age of just 22, they are the crowned princes of Warped Tour, and their next move might well be the one that makes them kings.

For Neck Deep, it looks like the rollercoaster has only just begun.

LIFE'S NOT OUT TO GET YOU IS OUT ON AUGUST 14 VIA HOPELESS. THE BAND PLAY READING & LEEDS FESTIVAL THIS AUGUST – SEE THE GIG GUIDE FOR INFO

★ NECK DEEP

**"I KINDA PREFERRED
IT WHEN NO-ONE
GAVE A FLYING F**K
ABOUT WHO I WAS"**

BEN BARLOW

Believe it or not, but this is actually a tiny tour van in America... (Clockwise from bottom left) Lloyd Roberts, Ben Barlow, Fil Thorpe-Evans, Matt West and Dani Washington

INTERVIEW

THE FALL

THEY WERE SET TO BE ROCK'S NEXT BIG THING. THEN **WE CAME AS ROMANS'** WORLD FELL APART. **DAVE STEPHENS** REVEALS HOW THEY PICKED UP THE PIECES...

As autumn recedes into 2014's biting winter, We Came As Romans singer Dave Stephens is feeling like a shell of a man. The end of a long-term relationship, the wretched talons of chronic depression and displacement from the world around him have all taken their toll. The frontman of the metalcore sextet has been driven into a state of reclusiveness, drowning in the misery of his own silence. Slowly, he's losing the will to live.

This metamorphosis from being a "happy-go-lucky guy running around laughing" to a hermitic shadow of his former self does not go unnoticed, either: "I became a secluded person, which is very unlike me," says Dave today. "But I wanted to fill the hole with something positive, instead of just getting drunk or picking up girls. I just didn't feel like myself any more."

Dave's life had been crumbling before his very eyes: the prevailing winds of misfortune tearing him down, piece by piece at each corner of his existence. Ambushed by misery at every turn, the Detroit native had never felt so hopeless. Worst of all, it had come at a time when he needed to be firing on all cylinders. The wheels were beginning to slowly turn on the creation of WCAR's self-titled fourth album; the all-important follow-up to 2013's breakthrough *Tracing Back Roots*, which had marked Dave – and his band – as one of rock's hottest properties. And yet Dave found himself under the kind of black cloud that would continue to consume him until there was nothing recognisable left.

It was do or die, sink or swim, deal with it or be done with it. He needed to open up and talk about his problems, liberate himself from all the emotion to facilitate the mental relief he so desperately craved. It was time to get things back on track.

"Initially I tried to hold it all in and deal with it myself," he continues. "Everyone could tell there was something wrong. I'm an extrovert and I wasn't really talking. As soon as I did, everything started to unravel in a good way. There's nothing to be ashamed about; depression is an epidemic. I found that talking about my problems started to fix up the core of the sadness. I'm a resilient person, I don't quit, I never quit, I don't give up easy. It got to the point where I just had to stop feeling sorry for myself."

Little did Dave know, though, that the worst was yet to come in the months that followed...

"You're just not good enough to sing on this record."

The words hit Dave Stephens like a brick to the head. Getting told that he wasn't cutting the mustard by the guy being paid to produce *We Came As Romans'* most important album yet was the final straw. He just couldn't take it any more.

"I ended up questioning the future of the band," admits Dave, the croak in his voice succumbing to the weight of his words. "I thought, 'Man, are we just not good? What's the deal here?' I had no idea what the problem was or how to fix it. When someone tells

"WE NEEDED TO BE THERE TO PICK EACH OTHER UP"

DAVE STEPHENS

you all your songs are shit, that you can't sing, you're going to panic. After everything else I'd been through, this was the icing on the cake."

Speaking from the Camden, New Jersey, leg of this summer's Warped Tour, it's understandable why the WCAR frontman sounds so relieved. Six months ago, being back on the road seemed beyond the realms of possibility. Today, Dave may still be licking his wounds, but that his band survived at all is victory enough.

"I don't see anything stopping us at this point now," the frontman notes. "We've been to Hell and back. Maybe what doesn't kill you really does make you stronger. Every time I listen to this record, I will remember the blood, sweat and tears of making it. We needed to be there to pick each other up."

After having all their demo tracks shrugged off by award-winning sound wizard David Bendeth (Black Veil Brides, Paramore), it took the band – completed by co-vocalist Kyle Pavone, guitarists Joshua Moore and Lou Cotton, bassist Andy Glass and drummer Eric Choi – a while to figure out where they'd been going wrong. The new music might not have been good, but surely it can't have been that *bad*, either?

"It was more like we'd just written those songs before," Dave ponders, his words hanging in the

This is what happens when WCAR try to put up a shelf... (From left) Joshua Moore, Dave Stephens, Kyle Pavone, Eric Choi, Lou Cotton and Andy Glass

WE CAME
AS ROMANS

ROME

F



air before an uncomfortable silence begs him to reconsider ambiguity. "I think we were way too confident going in and it all felt like an extension of our last album. This is our fourth record, we can't get away with doing that. We had to push the envelope and, at the start, it didn't feel like we were."

The studio veteran's feedback echoing in their ears, Dave and his bandmates searched deeper than ever before. Inspired by Foo Fighters' pilgrimage across the States on HBO series *Sonic Highways*, the bandmates each took time off to travel through the great American cities and collaborate with external songwriters. Dave even accepted the suggestion of professional vocal coaching.

"I felt let down [in myself]," Dave sighs. "Of course it really hurt, but more importantly I had to realise there was a lot of work to do as a singer."

"That first day back [in the studio], I was a wreck," he recalls with a nervous laugh. "I thought [David Bendeth] was just going to shoot me down again. I was freaking out. Finally, we got our first compliment and that was the defining moment. I seriously feel it's our most honest record because everything musically and lyrically came from the heart."

Though that does sound like something you might say again next time around...

"That's a fair comment!" Dave laughs. "This is just how we're gonna start writing from now on. Looking back, it feels we haven't been saying everything we've been wanting to say. It'll be hard to write our next record any *more* honestly."

It's been quite the journey already, but these Romans aren't done building their empire just yet. Not by a long shot.

WE CAME AS ROMANS' SELF-TITLED NEW ALBUM IS OUT ON JULY 24 VIA SPINEFARM RECORDS

BLOOD ON THE PAGE

WCAR'S NEW ALBUM SEES DAVE DIG DEEPER THAN EVER WITH HIS LYRICS. BUT WHICH MEAN THE MOST TO HIM?



'WHO WILL PRAY FOR ME TOMORROW?'

FROM: *Who Will Pray?*

DAVE SAYS: "This is much deeper than it seems. A lot of people will take it religiously, but it doesn't come from there. It's more like, if you pray for someone, you do that because you care about them. So, this lyric is saying: 'Who cares about me? Who is going to be here to help me though this?' I thought that one line said so much with such few words."

'OUR FAITH IS PUT IN THE STARS, NOT IN EACH OTHER'S HEARTS'

FROM: *Regenerate*

DAVE SAYS: "People today are so concerned about arguing with each other about their faith or religion; everyone gets so caught up with that, they forget to put faith in their fellow man. People are too often looking to the church or whatever [for answers], instead of looking at and helping each other."

'WHAT HAPPENED TO THE WORLD I USED TO KNOW?'

FROM: *The World I Used To Know*

DAVE SAYS: "This is the staple of the entire record. It sums up how we were feeling writing the whole thing. The world had changed in our eyes, we didn't really know what was going to happen next for us... I was feeling really lost and confused about my place within it. I'd grown up a bit and suddenly it all changed for me."

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THE REAL LIFE OF FRANK TURNER

THREE YEARS ON FROM THE MOST MISERABLE POINT OF HIS LIFE, **FRANK TURNER** IS BACK WITH A NEW, HAPPIER ALBUM. BUT CAN HE FINALLY CRACK A SMILE?

Frank Turner walks into the room, covered in tattoos, swinging around a plastic bag with a huge grin on his face. He whacks it on the table to proudly show Kerrang! a T-shirt with a large chimp's face covering it. "Honestly," he says, "I'm seriously considering throwing out all my clothes and just wearing T-shirts with animals on them."

No miserable sod buys clothes like that. Yet Frank Turner is a man many think to be exactly that. But today, with an air of cheeriness, he's here to talk about his uplifting new album, *Positive Songs For Negative People*.

Of course, it's easy to forget just how unpleasant things got for Frank a few years ago. In 2012, he was attacked by a national newspaper over political comments he'd made during the course his career. Off the back of this, he was receiving 100 death threats a day for a couple of weeks. And it hurt. "I'd like to be punk and say it didn't fucking matter; but of course it fucking mattered – it was a really, really upsetting time in my life," he reflects. To make matters worse, this terrifying pile-on happened at the same time he split from his girlfriend ("I fucked up the most important relationship of my adult life so far," he sighs).

These events, by his own admission, combined to create the most unhappy period of his adult life. How did he manage to pull himself out? Time. Acceptance. And an old-fashioned dose of positivity.

"PMA's a good one!" Frank smiles. "You've got to take it in the right way, though. That song Don't Worry, Be Happy annoyed the fuck out of me." He turns to hardcore punk to explain his view. "Henry Rollins was a big deal for me. The thing I always liked about him was his self-creation. You're not condemned to be the person you were born to be. Don't sit down and accept the bullshit life throws at you. Lead the life you want to lead."

Yet Frank hasn't performed a complete 360 now he's embracing PMA. Deep down there's a duality between positivity and negativity that battle for control over actions. "I slightly suspect everyone [has it]. I'm a work in progress," he admits. "I'm in my 30s now. I think it's good to keep slightly confused about who you are and to keep

trying to grow. Creativity comes out of conflict."

Obvious things make him happy (performing live, his family), but it's fault-finding and disapproval that really cut him, as his comments on the newspaper incident would show. "I'm reasonably sensitive to criticism," he explains. "I think everyone tries to tough it out and try to be punk rock about it. However, I don't want to be one of those people that never reads reviews and that sort of thing."

It's a little more than that, though. He purses his lips. "I don't like to be disliked. It makes me uncomfortable."

Frank makes the point that he hasn't always been positive-minded – particularly growing up. "There've been a couple of times where being too negative has been a big issue for me," he begins. "It's difficult to talk about... I had some shitty times when I was a teenager at school. I was very unhappy with where I went to school [privileged all-boys private school Eton] because I fucking

"I GOT LOST IN MY OWN MISERY"

FRANK TURNER

hated everyone and the political principal of the place. And around that time, my family broke up. I didn't have a particularly happy family life, too."

Surely this adjustment in outlook doesn't mean he's lost his characteristic dark humour? Let's see: when's the happiest you've been in your whole life, Frank? "Oh fucking hell," he laughs. "Before I found out how fucking awful life is, so probably about aged two."

Seriously, though: when? "Umm..." he pauses. "Probably around [2008's second solo album] *Love Ire & Song*. There's something about that initial stage when you're in a band and success kicks in and you're innocent and everything's exciting and everyone's being nice and you haven't realised yet that half of them are bloodsucking arseholes who'll try to take you down. It's fucking great!"

Enter *Positive Songs For Negative People*. It's an album that features everything from him refusing to hide from life to avoid pain (*The Next Storm*) to screaming the very apt summary of his recent past (*You won't get everything you wanted, but you will never be defeated!* on *Demons*).

"I think I got lost in my own misery during [2013's] *Tape Deck Heart*," he says. "This record is about giving yourself a cold shower and telling yourself to get on with it. It's shaking your fist at the sky when you fall off your bike and saying, 'It's gonna take more than that.'"

It's the vocalisation of a man on the other side. And, sadly, Frank quickly had to put this new outlook on life into practice. While writing the new record, his friend Josh, a security man at the 9:30 club in Washington, D.C., took his own life. "He was the person everyone went to with their problems, which is what angered me," he explains.

"He was owed so much listening time by so many people, including me, and didn't use it." Frank wrote album-closer *Song For Josh* in his honour.

What would Frank most like people to take from *Positive Songs*...? Well, something positive, obviously. "What I do is lift the weight of the world off everyone's shoulders for a few quid while you have a beer and forget how shit everything is," Frank smiles. "The world melts away. That's my job and I'm fucking proud of it."

So, could the next album be *Positive Songs From A Positive Man*? "I doubt it," Frank laughs.

We'll see what the growing collection of animal T-shirts have to say about that...

POSITIVE SONGS FOR NEGATIVE PEOPLE IS OUT ON AUGUST 6 VIA POLYDOR

THE BOOK OF FRANK

FRANK'S EXCITED
ABOUT HIS OWN ALBUM
- BUT HE CAN'T WAIT
FOR IRON MAIDEN'S
NEW BOOK OF SOULS!



"Maiden were the first band I ever fell in love with - and I won Celebrity Mastermind with Maiden as my specialist subject! The last couple of records have been stunning and I'm really looking forward to The Book Of Souls. It's [meant to be] really progressive. Eighteen minutes for one song [Empire Of The Clouds] could never be too long! The album apparently had a more collaborative song-writing process which means, in theory, that Steve Harris is being less of a generalissimo. He's the classic writer, whereas [guitarist] Adrian Smith wrote a lot of the poppier '80s stuff, which I have a huge soft spot for. I'm a Maiden fan for all seasons!"



Guitar? No, that's just Frank's favourite hot-water bottle

INVESTIGATION



BREAKING THE

CODE



WITH **BRING ME THE HORIZON** AND **5 SECONDS OF SUMMER** KEEPING FANS GUESSING OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS WITH A SERIES OF CRYPTIC TEASERS, WE TAKE A LOOK BACK AT THE OTHER BANDS TO HAVE LEFT US SCRATCHING OUR HEADS IN THE NAME OF ROCK...

WORDS: SAM COARE, GEORGE GARNER



FALL OUT BOY

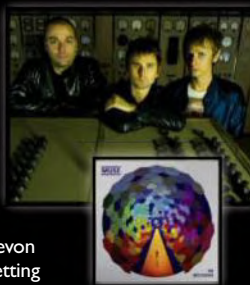
If you felt Fall Out Boy's hiatus-ending return in 2013 caused a scene, then the build-up to their 2008 album, *Folie à Deux*, was a goddamn circus. With the band's stock at its all-time peak following Number One record *Infinity On High* the year prior, bassist Pete Wentz would use the gaze of millions of fans – and the growing tabloid obsession with his then-recent marriage to singer Ashlee Simpson – to send people on the most fantastic of chases. It started when the website of Pete's own Decaydance Records was hacked by a Big Brother-style group going by the name of Citizens For Our Betterment, diverting fans to IP-specific web pages that gave mysterious nods to the date of November 4 – that of that year's U.S. presidential election. With Ashlee Simpson soon papped in LA clutching a Citizens For Our Betterment leaflet and pop-rockers Copeland attempting to cash in on the buzz by creating their own mirror website, the endless speculation came to a head on August 25. Then, a web page featuring artists on the Decaydance roster reciting passages from the Citizens website appeared, allowing those still following the trail of breadcrumbs to download a scrappy mixtape featuring music by Decaydance artists. And buried within that was a 40-second interlude where rapper Ludacris announced *Folie à Deux*'s November 4 release. The kicker? FOB soon thought better of putting out such an important album on Election Day, and shunted its release to late December. Whoops.



an instrumental version of the song. Helpfully, come the release of next single *Leech* a couple of months later, the quintet made things easier for us, by simply splicing the track into 26 10-second-long clips and hiding them around Twitter for fans to find. Oh, and arrange in order for themselves. Thanks for that...

MUSE

It's a well-known fact that Muse don't do 'small'. Which is why perhaps the only thing surprising about their masterminding of an elaborate worldwide game was that it took them until their fifth album to think of it. In July 2009, with fans awaiting news on the long-talked-about release of *The Resistance*, the Devon trio announced that getting your hands on the first cut of material wasn't going to be as easy as clicking on iTunes. Instead, fans had to solve a series of online codes and clues to reveal the location, date and time at which an 'agent' could be found, and a USB stick featuring new song *United States Of Eurasia* procured. The hunt took people as far and wide as Paris, Berlin, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Moscow, yet surprisingly not the WHSmith in Norwich.



BRAND NEW

Not knowing what's going on the world of Brand New is par for the course for fans. And you get the impression that, to be honest, it's par for the course for the New York four-piece themselves a lot of the time. Even today, over six months after the most curious of online activity began, we're none the wiser as to what the devil has been going on. Eagle-eyed visitors to the band's official website at the tail end of last year would have spotted an obscured link titled 'Hype', which connected to the video to yeti-suited space-rockers PPL MVR's *People Mover* song, starting speculation that the anonymous band are members of Brand New. Latterly, that link changed to the word 'Node', leading people into the internet rabbit hole that is the Fusionanomaly.net/cazzamalli website. Whether its labyrinthine network of pages about space, time-travel, science and more contains any actual answers, we've not a clue. But then again, chances are Brand New don't, either.



NINE INCH NAILS

Having already made a triumphant comeback with 2005's *With Teeth* after a six-year absence, Nine Inch Nails mastermind Trent Reznor wasted no time getting to work on another album. Yet not only was 2007's 5K-rated *Year Zero* a concept record that transposed Trent's frustrations with the George Bush administration into a dystopian narrative of a future world riddled with government surveillance, but it was promoted like no other album before or after. At this point the words 'alternate reality game' become important. In a bid to meld art and reality, Trent developed the idea of bringing the story of the album to life via tour T-shirts with hidden messages, websites that gave warnings from the future and USB sticks with more clues in. Perhaps most famously, one contained a then-unreleased song, *My Violent Heart*. It was found in the loo of a Portuguese venue. Needless to say, NIN fans – who aren't exactly averse to spending



hours dissecting Trent's every artistic move anyway – went crazy, scouring the web/toilets for any more scraps that would pull the story together. The game came to a head in late April 2007 when select fans were invited to a mystery LA location for a free NIN show, which was cut short after one song by a 'SWAT team' raid. Two weeks later, the game was over – for now...



NORTHLANE

Northlane have long been known as a band who like to do things a bit differently. So, it's no surprise that they should make the announcement of their new album, *Node*, as tricky as they did. In May this year, mailing list subscribers were sent a link to a SoundCloud account boasting a new song from the Australians, titled *Ra*, with further investigation of the page throwing up an unknown Twitter account. From there, a series of tweets and links from a dozen specially created accounts eventually unveiled the artwork and title, in braille (we're not sure that's how touchscreens work...), of new album *Node*. Think that's all? Well, by overlaying the cover images from each of the Twitter accounts, a hidden website address would be revealed, from which you could download



QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE

Sometimes, when we're lucky, bands send us nice things in the post. T-shirts, records, cupcakes... But something altogether stranger landed on our doormat in December 2012, from the pen of Queens Of The Stone Age. A series of cryptic social media posts had already hinted to the band being back in the studio, though it wasn't until a bunch of individually tailored letters were delivered to magazines around the UK that we received confirmation of... well, something. Little was given away in any of the letters, save for the band announcing a new record, and that 'time' was seemingly a running theme. Kerrang!'s own letter (right), displayed a series of watches, the first two of which pointed to 'six' and 'three' (continuing the letters' obsession with the number nine) – in hindsight, relating to the eventual June 3 release date of the sixth album... *Like Clockwork*. We, er, think.



ANYONE GOT A PLAN B?

SOMETIMES, NOT EVERY 'BRIGHT' IDEA GOES QUITE AS IT SHOULD...

The best ideas, as any of the bands above will testify, are ones that take painstaking planning and attention to detail. But, most of all, they require an idea to be good in the first place. And that, as Upon A Burning Body prove, isn't always easy to come by. What better way, the Texas deathcore

ragers thought, of promoting their forthcoming album in July of last year, than by hoaxing a kidnapping of frontman Danny Leal? Well, many, it would transpire. Countless. In fact, we can't think of many worse plans. Danny himself would start the shenanigans with a series of tweets reporting a strange car hanging outside his

house – because that's the obvious thing to do in such situations – before a panicked announcement via the band's own account informed of his missing status. The stunt, a brainless Danny later said, soon had "people calling the cops", the owner of Sumerian Records, to whom the band are signed, stating the band had "lost the plot", and just about everyone else thinking what a complete bunch of morons they were. Back to the drawing board, eh...



THE SONGS THAT SAVED MY LIFE

IT'S STRANGE TO THINK, BUT IT COULD ALL HAVE BEEN SO DIFFERENT FOR ANDY. WELL, IF HIS CAREER AS A DRUMMER WHO USES PENS AS STICKS HAD TAKEN OFF. OR IF HE'D ENDED UP WEARING A MASK ON BROADWAY...

THIS WEEK: ANDY BIRSACK | BLACK VEIL BRIDES

THE SONG THAT MAKES ME THINK OF HOME IS...

CARR JAM 1981

KISS

"It's an Eric Carr [late Kiss drummer] drum solo, and it immediately transports me to the back seat of my dad's car. I would use two pens as drumsticks and bang all over the backseat to the drum solo. Whenever I hear it, it's impossible not to think of home. My dad didn't mind, he encouraged it!"

FIND IT: *Revenge* (1992)

THE SONG THAT MADE ME WANT TO BE A MUSICIAN WAS...

THE MUSIC OF THE NIGHT

**THE PHANTOM OF
THE OPERA**

"I don't know why, but as a little kid this resonated so much with me. I mean, I'm not really a Broadway guy, I'm not a show tunes guy, I'm not even a massive Phantom Of The Opera fan. But my mom or dad happened to play it in the house and I learned every word. I would sing it all the time and perform it at grade school talent shows, aged five or six. It was just a song that hit me as a kid."

FIND IT: *The Phantom Of The Opera Original Cast Recording* (1986)

THE SONG I WOULD LIKE TO COVER IS...

PAINT IT BLACK

THE ROLLING STONES

"With covers, you either go, 'This is a song we could put our spin on,' or, 'This is a song I can already hear elements of us in.' The song I'd like to put our spin on is Paint It Black. It's such a dark and interesting song. It's certainly not a metal song, but it has such a dark feeling that it could easily be done in a hard rock way, while still maintaining what the song is."

FIND IT: *Grrr!* (2012)

THE SONG THAT'S MADE ME THE MOST CASH IS...

IN THE END

BLACK VEIL BRIDES

"You don't really make much money off any songs in this day and age, to be honest. But if any song has helped me to keep the lights on, it's In The End. This song's been played on the radio a lot and there's been interest from TV sports, wrestling, video games and many other things where you can potentially make some royalties. A friend of mine once said that it's the song that would be sent out into space as a time capsule of what Black Veil Brides are about, and I tend to agree."

FIND IT: *Wretched And Divine: The Story Of The Wild Ones* (2013)

**"I USED TO
DRUM ALONG
TO KISS USING
PENS AS
DRUMSTICKS!"**

ANDY BIRSACK



THE SONG I WISH I HADN'T RECORDED IS...

HEAVEN'S CALLING

BLACK VEIL BRIDES

"It's very confusing, lyrically. I had a great concept in my head, but it never came together. I'm sure that someone out there likes it, and I don't mean to rag on something people enjoy, but it's a sub-par song at best. Thankfully, very few people at a show would be interested in hearing it."

FIND IT: *We Stitch These Wounds* (2010)

THE SONG THAT'S GOT THE GREATEST LYRICS EVER IS...

**I'LL WORK FOR
YOUR LOVE**

**BRUCE
SPRINGSTEEN**

"There are all these Biblical references to 'Stations of the cross' and 'Crown of thorns', and some lines that are really well written and smart. I always aspire to write something you can sing along to and is great at face-value level, but when you examine it, you go, 'Wow, that's an interesting thing to say.' Springsteen's great at that. He's underrated as a lyricist — people look at Born In The USA and they don't even understand the tone, that it's an ironic song. But that's okay. I'll listen to Springsteen, everyone else that doesn't understand it can listen to someone else."

FIND IT: *Magic* (2007)

THE WORST SONG EVER IS...

SCATMAN JOHN

SCATMAN (SKI-BA-BOP-BA-DOP-BOP)

"I don't want to make fun of somebody's art, but this gets stuck in my head and annoys the shit out of me. I can't stand the Scatman and yet I love it. I'm singing along but I'm hating it, for the rest of the day I'm singing it and humming it. People are going to look this up now, and it'll get stuck in their head and be the end of everything."

FIND IT: Scatman's World (1995)



THE LAST SONG I LISTENED TO WAS...

IT'S SO EASY

GUNS N' ROSES

"We were just jamming this in rehearsal. For all of Axl Rose's idiosyncrasies and the things people talk shit about, he's one of the most fascinating people that's ever existed in rock. This album [Appetite For Destruction] is great, and when you look at the ambition of [insane-selling 1991 twin follow-up] Use Your Illusion I and II and where he would have gone with the next record... His mind hit this zenith of creative insanity, and I'm really intrigued by how a mind like that ticks. You can see where he went off the deep end, but seeing someone that had so much potential and was given the money and the capacity to do everything he wanted to do is pretty incredible."

FIND IT: Appetite For Destruction (1987)

THE SONG I WANT TO BE REMEMBERED FOR IS...

LOST IT ALL

BLACK VEIL BRIDES

"This song was a personal pilgrimage to build something crazy and massive that had all kinds of different instrumentation and key changes. We just wanted to do something that was outside the box of a hard rock song. Maybe it's not what I'd want the band to be remembered for, because I don't know that it's indicative of the sound of the band as a whole. But it's certainly something that I'd want to hang my hat on and say to people, 'That's something I was a part of.'"

FIND IT: Wretched And Divine: The Story Of The Wild Ones (2013)



THE SONG YOU WOULDN'T EXPECT TO SEE ON MY IPOD IS...

ALL THE GIRLS

LOVE ALICE

ELTON JOHN

"It's actually one of my favourite songs of all time, for two reasons. The first one is that I'm a really huge Alice Cooper fan, and he was Elton John's muse for the song. And the second reason is, I'm also a huge fan of that 1970s glitter-rock thing. I don't think that people necessarily remember Elton John as a rockstar any more, but he was certainly in that Freddie Mercury style early on. He was very much a rock'n'roller back then, like an English Jerry Lee Lewis, but with costumes."

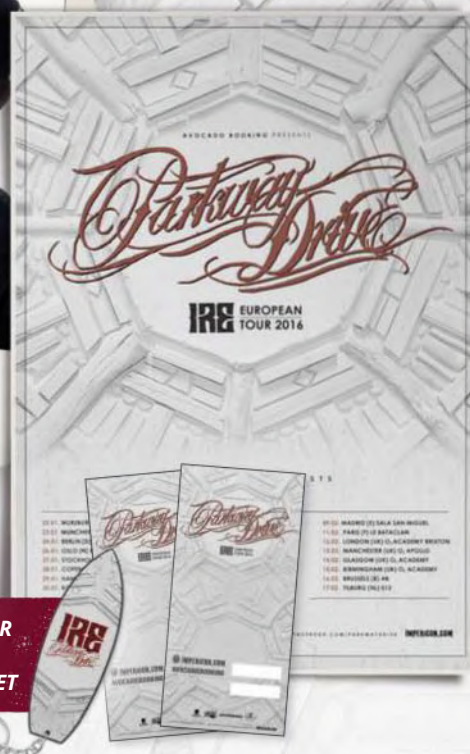
FIND IT: Goodbye Yellow Brick Road (1973)





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ANATOMY OF A ROCKSTAR

MIKEY CHAPMAN MALLORY KNOX

THIS SINGER LIKES MOVIES AND SMASHING STUFF UP. OH, AND CHESS CLUB...

fig.4

MY BIGGEST SECRET IS...

"That when I was really young at school I was a bit of a dork and was in the chess club. All my tactical skill started from there. After that I went on to computer games and then moved forward to the expansion of my empire and conquering of the world as a whole... (laughs)!"

fig.5

I PASS THE TIME BY...

"Watching movies. It kinda depends who I'm watching with, though; there's nothing worse than seeing a film and the other person being obviously bored. I love anime and cartoons as well as the comic book superhero stuff. My top movie of all time is The Fifth Element; firstly because it's got a bit of everything in there, and secondly because Milla Jovovich is a complete and utter mega-babe!"

fig.1

THE THING I MISS MOST ON TOUR IS...

"My dogs. I miss them loads whenever we're away for a long period of time. I've got three Jack Russells and a Staff who are all total nightmares, but I wouldn't have them any other way. I never had pets when I was younger, but as a grown-up they completely change your perspective – I mean, I've never loved anything that isn't a human before, but I definitely love them!"

fig.2

MY FIRST PAID WORK WAS AS...

"A builder. I was always quite undecided about what I wanted to do with my life as a kid but I did spend some time working on building sites. It's bloody hard work but you get a sweat going and you get to knock things down all the time! I like building things but there is something really satisfying about smashing something to pieces!"

fig.3

MY FAVOURITE SPORT IS...

"Football. I know people probably associate Sam [Douglas, Mallory Knox bassist] more with football in our band, but I do actually play quite a lot! Band practice is either guitars and singing or football, so it descends into kickabouts quite a lot. I used to be really sporty when I was a kid, but as is so often the case, I discovered music and got really lazy. Football is the one thing that has remained from that period!"

"I WAS A DORK AND WENT TO CHESS CLUB"

• MIKEY CHAPMAN •

fig.6

MY FAVOURITE THING TO DO ON TOUR IS...

"Eat. Although whenever we go to America I feel like the takeaways out there don't quite have what I'm after. I did eat an amazing steak once on the beach in Sacramento, which was pretty awesome. Oh, and I love [American doughnut chain] Voodoo Doughnuts. It's like Krispy Kreme but they personalise all the doughnuts, so it's ace. Try them if you ever get a chance!"

fig.7

MY WORST INJURY ONSTAGE WAS...

"When I fell off a stage in Manchester and bruised my ass so hard I genuinely thought I'd punctured something in my leg. This was within about 15 or 20 seconds of us coming onstage and I spent the entire rest of the set hobbling around like a fool. The bruise, in the end, was about the size of my hand, but it could have been a lot worse, I guess."

fig.8

MY FAVOURITE COMPUTER GAME IS...

"Streets Of Rage! A lot of that more old-school stuff on the Mega Drive got me as into gaming as I am now. I had Streets Of Rage on the same cartridge as Golden Axe when I was younger and I've spent a bunch of time recently trying to complete both games again. I've got through Streets again, although I can't re-complete Golden Axe to save my life!"

fig.9

MY FAVOURITE PLACE TO TRAVEL IS...

"Southeast Asia, which is amazing, especially Thailand. I did have a pretty brutal experience stuck on a boat for about 36 hours, though – don't talk to me about the toilets. I remember going into a shopping centre in Singapore after I'd been away for a while, seeing a pristine white toilet and virtually dropping to my knees with excitement!"

STYLING: DAN BLISSOR PHOTO: IAN COLANT

LIVES

RATINGS

KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR

KORN

PLUS: SNOT, SUNFLOWER DEAD

O2 ACADEMY Brixton, London. 16.07.15

KKKKK

THE BAND THAT STARTED EVERYTHING PLAY
THE ALBUM THAT CHANGED IT ALL

WORDS: GEORGE GARNER PHOTOS: PAUL HARRIES



IT FEELS LIKE every other gig has some band playing an album in full these days. Metallica played *The Black Album*. Backwards. The Offspring played *Smash*. Mostly in order: Papa Roach did *Infest*. Finch did *What It Is To Burn*. Manic Street Preachers reopened *The Holy Bible*. The list is endless. When it works – and some of these most certainly did – it can be mesmerising. All too often, however, the suspicion lingers that this ‘In Full’ malarkey is being used to wring cash out of a band’s legacy when a tour of new material won’t cut it (are you reading this, *Wheat*?). Such cynicism doesn’t belong here tonight. Because Korn’s debut album – now 20 years old – is a genuine classic. Because it changed the sound of metal forever. Because some of its defining songs are rarely aired live. And, crucially, because Korn have consciously evolved enough over the years to make the prospect of seeing them devolve feel like something truly special.

Standing in this imposing shadow, you have to feel a tad sorry for Sunflower Dead – a “supergroup” comprised of such rock royalty as... In This Moment’s touring percussionist. For now, their endearing passion – and use of accordion – outstrips the quality of their songs, though they do a good job of sounding disturbingly like Disturbed. Re-united funk-metalers Snot fair better with the crowd, but why they deny Brixton the chance to sing along to *My Balls* is anyone’s guess. A giddy rendition of Metallica’s *Hit The Lights* must instead suffice.

Of course, none of this puts the crowd in the right headspace for Korn. Still, when Jonathan Davis arrives onstage and asks the eternal question – ‘*Arre yooooo reeeeady?*’ – the crowd are set. And so are the band. What Korn deliver tonight isn’t just a classic album, it’s a classic performance. Blind may be a song everyone’s seen innumerable times, but witnessing it open the set (instead of closing) makes it feel like popping the cherry all over again. From there, as they tear through the down-tuned force of *Ball Tongue* and *Shoots And Ladders*, they’re in the form of their lives.

Another big part of what makes tonight so special is the quality of the songs. While the blueprint they laid may have been recycled by pretty much everyone, other aspects are impossible to mimic. Korn’s debut was, essentially, the sound of innocence gnawing away at unprocessed trauma. Jonathan Davis may live a comfortable life now, but the intensity of his delivery on *Faget* and *Clown* makes you believe the pain that inspired them is never far away in his mind. Unsurprisingly, the most devastating moment comes from seeing him perform a song that, in truth, he barely managed to finish on record. *Daddy*, the track Jonathan wrote about being abused – his tortured sobs captured forevermore by producer Ross Robinson – is phenomenal. Tonight, after pacing around in circles and vomiting his screams, he finishes it. Just. He makes a notably quick exit afterwards.

If there’s a downside, it’s that there’s really no way of topping that emotional deluge. Even an encore consisting of the unholy trinity of hits *Falling Away From Me*, *Here To Stay* and *Freak On A Leash* – incredible as they are – seems unnecessary after seeing Korn streamline themselves so brilliantly. Tonight there were no electronic wub-wubs. Nothing but the undiluted power of the music and spirit that first defined Korn. This, in other words, is how this ‘In Full’ malarkey should be done.



An upturned plug gave Jonathan Davis an extra boost on *Ball Tongue*

STAR SHOUT! JONATHAN DAVIS (VOCALS)

WHAT DOES YOUR DEBUT MEAN TO YOU?

"I used the album as art to express myself and get the shit out. I really didn't care who heard it; it was for me. I think people really grasped onto it because it was real. I was just trying to get these demons out. It came from a very pure place."

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF BANDS PLAYING FULL ALBUMS LIVE?

"I've heard of people doing it, but I never thought that we would do it. It's pretty cool because we never played some of these songs live. Hearing it in its entirety, you realise that it's a fucking dark record, and it's pretty cool to see where we came from and what we've evolved to now, in 20 years."

SO, WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO DO THIS?

"To be able to do a completely different show, something we haven't done before, that's what made us excited about it. We were originally like, 'People are going to want to listen to the whole first fucking album?! Are they going to like this?'"

Woah! Calm down, Ray
Luzier, YOU'RE GOING TO
BREAK THAT DRUM KIT!

Dude's clearly got a lot
going on in his Head

"Atteeeeeeeeeeeeeeeentian!"
"Private Fieldy reporting for
duty, SIR, YES, SIR!"

KoЯn

Blind
Ball Tongue
Need To
Clown
Divine
Faget
Shoots And Ladders
Predictable
Fake
Lies
Helmet In The Bush
Daddy

ENCORE

Falling Away From Me
Here To Stay
Freak On A Leash

Poor, poor Munky still can't
play guitar without reading
the music as he goes along

LIVES

YOUNG GUNS

PLUS: TWIN WILD, CONTOURS

WELLY, HULL. 13.07.15

KKKK

RETURNING BRIT HEROES ROCK ON THE HIGHWAY TO HULL

WORDS: PAUL TRAVERS PHOTOS: ANDY GALLAGHER

■ IT'S BEEN five years, almost to the day, since Young Guns unleashed their debut album, *All Our Kings Are Dead*. During that time they've established themselves at the very forefront of a resurgent British rock scene, but it's been ages since we've seen them as up close and personal as this. They've spent a large part of the last two years trying to break America and working on new album, *Ones And Zeros*, while we've got a little lonely. Now, though, they're back like a virulent – though not entirely unpleasant – rash, infesting parts of the country they've not been to in years. Contours take full advantage of the headliners'

overdue return to scratch Hull's itch. The local support are a far heavier proposition and belt out a series of brilliant, sternum-quivering grooves that evoke the likes of *While She Sleeps*. Next up are Twin Wild, who, despite the name, are a milder, indie proposition. There's plenty of earnest microphone hugging, but they're at their best when they crank up the riffs and give The Welly some welly.

By the time Young Guns come on, the place already feels like Satan's own jockstrap. The pumping dance-rock grooves of *I Want Out* only turn the heat higher, and how singer Gustav Wood manages to keep wrapped up in a hoodie and hat all night is a debate for medical science. The more synth-layered songs from *Ones And Zeros* are given an extra kick live, especially in a small club like this, while tried-and-tested cuts like *Stitches* and *Towers (On My Way)* retain an enduring impact. By the time Bones rocks things to a conclusion, there's not a dry armpit in the house. Welcome back, lads. Now stay over here a while, yeah?

STAR SHOUT!
GUSTAV WOOD
(VOCALS)

ENJOYING THE HEAT, MATE?

"Yeah! I quite enjoy being hot, so in a bizarre way I thought it would be good to put on a few more layers tonight. I've been feeling a bit stiff, so I thought I'd sweat it all out tonight – I layered up like a madman."

IT'S FIVE YEARS SINCE YOUR DEBUT CAME OUT. FEELING OLD?

"I am! It was five years yesterday. These days, as I've gotten older, I try to just exist in the moment a little more and enjoy everything that comes along."



Gustav's penguin disguise wasn't fooling anyone

I DIVIDE

VICTORIA INN, DERBY. 07.07.15

KKKK

GIANT-SOUNDING YOUNG BRIT ROCKERS TAKE SOME VERY LARGE STEPS IN DERBY

■ IN THE week that Blitz Kids announced their departure, taking their big anthems with them, there is at least a satisfying symmetry in the fact that I Divide have stepped up with theirs. The Exeter mob aren't as poppy or as laddish as the former, but their take on songwriting – big hooks loaded with heart and honesty – is identical. Tonight they ably confront the reality of touring at this level, playing to about 25 people on a Tuesday night, but with as much vigour as you'd expect from a band headlining to hundreds. Their music is tuneful, emotional and occasionally inspiring, completely avoiding the over-trodden marshland of pop-punk in favour of raw, edgy rock songs like *Cold At The Bottom* and *Monster In Me*. Look At Me Now showcases their underdog bark, with singer Tom Kavanagh seething with a quiet determination, and they somehow get a sing-along going at the start of *Follow Me*. It might be a small victory, but tonight this instantly likeable band don't so much divide as conquer.

STEVE BEEBEE

BIOHAZARD

UNDERWORLD, LONDON. 09.07.15

KKK

BROOKLYN HARDCORE BRUISERS DEFY THE TUBE STRIKE TO LEAVE THEIR MARK

■ "FUCK THE TOOB!" barks Biohazard guitarist Billy Graziadei in a New York accent that remains as thick as his band's songs remain heavy. Two-and-a-half decades into their career, Biohazard aren't going to be slowed by some serious industrial action on the London Underground tonight. Likewise, the departure of bassist and main mouthpiece Evan Seinfeld in 2011 hasn't slowed Biohazard's momentum in a live setting. Billy's more than happy centre stage, still vital, musclebound and bleached blond like a hardcore parakeet. He saves stage invaders from security guards, offers them space at the mic to belt out lyrics to *Tales From The Hard Side* alongside him, and obligingly launches one admirer back into the pit at his request. The biggest anthems from their two classic albums – 1992's *Urban Discipline* and '94's *State Of The World Address* – set off slam dancing in the venue's walkways for a reason: Biohazard helped pioneer rap-metal and metalcore, singing songs that spoke out against inequality and overcoming hard times when all else seems lost. Fittingly, while tonight London flounders and grinds to a halt, Biohazard show they still know how to get things moving.

ALISTAIR LAWRENCE

GRAVE MIASMA

PLUS: FUNERAL THRONE, DEVOURING STAR, BARSHASKETH, VACIVUS
AUDIO, GLASGOW. 04.07.15

KKKK

FULLY LOADED BLACK-METAL BILL PROVES THE BRIGHTER THE SUN, THE MURKIER THE SHADE

■ THERE'S BLAZING sunlight outside, and humidity's close to suffocating, but in Audio's light-tight black box there's a refreshing twinge of frostbite. Grave Miasma, quite possibly the best British death metal act of this decade, are finally making their first trip north of Hadrian's Wall, and you can almost feel the morbidity in the air. Opening the blackened banquet, Sunderland's

Vacivus and Edinburgh/New Zealand collective Barshasketh combust in a haze of blastbeats and sublime sonic torture. Finland's Devouring Star tighten the grip with a hypnotically expansive sense of darkness, before satanic Midlanders Funeral Throne shatter the darkness with a galloping black metal attack. Still, it's the debuting Southern sons who've packed-in this grim Northern throng. Wreathed in incense, blood and black candles, Grave Miasma look ready to burn or bludgeon out their victory with their violent, haunting death metal. Crushing opener Eschatos, the soul-rattling horror of This Tomb Is My Altar, a blood-chilling Ovation To A Thousand Lost Reveries and the apocalyptic atmospherics of chilling closer Ossuary all drag Glasgow to Hell. And we're headbanging all the way there.

SAM LAW

VAMPS

INDIGO2, LONDON. 10.07.15

KKK

TOKYO'S BLOODSUCKING RIFFERS LEAD HYPER JAPAN'S LONDON INVASION

■ A COLOSSAL titan's head, wall-to-wall video games and more of those chocolate Pocky things than you can shake a nori roll at? Yup, the Hyper Japan culture festival is in full swing, and how better to say sayonara to day one than with VAMPS? And at first it might seem a little bit odd that Tokyo's festival-hosting monsters of J-Rock arrive dressed like they're in a Twilight/Pirates Of The Caribbean crossover. But with cosplay the order of the day, it's not the strangest outfit we've seen here. And as svelte frontman HYDE

prances around the stage with a flag like a glam buccaneer while howling cuts from this year's Bloodsuckers, it almost seems normal. Even his goading onstage antics (pouting, blowing kisses, miming with a plush owl) can't detract from the show-stealing rawk riffs churned out by his cohorts, which get the modest but die-hard audience raving and even chanting Revolution

II's refrain before VAMPS lay into its crunching T. Rex-meets-Godzilla groove. When HYDE asks, "Are you bloodsuckers?!" the roaring response is like an undead army delivering a battle cry. Doubtless after tonight there'll be a few more in that legion when VAMPS swoop back to sink their fangs into the UK in November.

JAMES MACKINNON



PHOTOS: CHRIS CASEY

THE HELL's diet: rich in Sharpies, clearly



Mate, now is not the time for rock-paper-scissors

STAR SHOUT! BLACK MIST (THE HELL, GUITAR)

LOVE THE SIX-PACKS. HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING OUT?

"Hey, it's not all about washboard stomachs. You can't spell 'legendary' without 'leg day'. But yeah, those gains are a mixture of a strict caveman diet and my new protein supplement, Brutopium, which is available in all good health stores. Just remember, weights get dates."

YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE HAVING FUN...

"It was great to be playing an intimate show again. Our agent had six nights at Wembley Stadium booked in, but I said, 'No way, let's take it back to our roots and play a packed-out sweatbox like we used to do way back in 2014.'"

THE HELL

PLUS: THE ONE HUNDRED, GURT

BLACK HEART, LONDON. 02.07.15

KKKK

PUNK'S ODD COUPLE SHARE THE LOVE IN KNOCKOUT DOUBLE BILL

WORDS: AMIT SHARMA PHOTOS: IAN COLLINS

■ IT'S THE night after the hottest July day in British history and London continues to boil. So, why not step into one of the sweatiest rooms in the capital to enjoy a vaguely wrestling-themed triple-bill of metal? London sludgers Gurt crank up the heat first with smouldering Sabbathian riffs, led by a hairy hillbilly in a Powerman 5000 shirt (remember them?). It doesn't fall on deaf ears: their lysergic communion is one that resonates deeply. Next up are mash-up mob The One Hundred, who look more like One Direction compared to their predecessors, but deliver an equally satisfying sonic kicking. Party anthems like Breed and Unleashed get bodies writhing in a sudoric soiree of gut-ripping guitars and electronic roguery. "I can see so much sweat in here it's fuckin' disgusting," barks NAIL\$, balaclava enthusiast and singer of THE HELL. "I don't care if you're too hot or a Teletubby, let's do this." Well, as you asked so kindly, sir. With six-packs doodled across their chests, the masked maniacs conjure a noxious smog of adolescent aggression. A bunch of jokers or the saviours of hardcore? Perhaps a bit of both: it's The motherfucking Hell (you dick), and they're delivering a brutal piledriver tonight.

REVIEWS

RATINGS

KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR



LAMB OF GOD

VII: STURM UND DRANG (NUCLEAR BLAST)

KKKK

THE VIRGINIA METAL TITANS RETURN WITH THE ALBUM THAT MIGHT NEVER HAVE BEEN...



RANDY BLYTHE was arrested for manslaughter. Randy Blythe stood trial in Prague. Randy Blythe was found not guilty. Lamb Of God have a new album out. Skipping over things a little? One might say so, but enough has now been said and written about the Lamb Of God frontman's 2012 incarceration and subsequent journey to freedom – not least in the man's own Darkest Days book (see panel) and on the cover of last week's Kerrang! – that much more is to unnecessarily trawl over things. Because VII: Sturm Und Drang (a German phrase meaning 'storm and stress') is not, as one might have suspected, given the title and everything that's happened, 'The Prison Album'. Just as important as the dark times leading up to the album is the fact that those times have passed, and Lamb Of God have to get back to the business of being one of modern metal's finest bands.

Only two songs on Sturm Und Drang – 512 (after the number of Randy's cell in the clink) and Still Echoes – deal with that time. And the lyrics for both were spat into Randy's notebook, along with much other writing, in his cell, "because that's what I do". But don't think that moving on from their experiences have made Lamb Of God – perhaps the most brutal middle-finger of a band ever to be nominated for a Grammy – any less fierce.

This is a record that seethes with fury. The frustration and anger of the two prison tracks is apoplectic, but there's venom spat everywhere across the album. Engage The Fear Machine is a righteous left hook at media-driven panic, inspired by the supposedly imminent Ebola outbreak that news networks pretty much generated. Then there's Erase This, an enormous wad of gob in the face of people who are, basically, dicks, while Delusion

Pandemic sees Randy seriously weakened by right-click, social-network, online vanity culture. Even though he's – gasp – *singing*, he still sounds furious.

And there's mates involved, too. Deftones frontman Chino Moreno pops up to lend a wave of dreamy melody to Embers, while Torches sees The Dillinger Escape Plan mouthpiece Greg Puciato adding extra petrol to Randy's already blazing fire, sharing in the song's rage with acerbic glee.

If you came looking for a story of a man searching for justice, buy Randy's book. Because the best thing about VII: Sturm Und Drang is that it acknowledges that time, without allowing it to become a masochistic obsession. Lamb Of God have put the past behind them. But there's still a whole world out there to be pissed off at.

DOWNLOAD: 512, Engage The Fear Machine.
FOR FANS OF: Pantera, Killswitch Engage.

NICK RUSKELL



THE INSIDER RANDY BLYTHE (VOCALS)

HOW DID IT FEEL GOING BACK INTO THE STUDIO AFTER EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU?

"It felt terrible! I hate going in the studio. I absolutely despise it. The producer, Josh Wilbur, is a personal friend of mine and I love him very dearly, and I think his feelings get hurt when I say

I hate going in the studio, because he wants to be the special one that makes me like the studio. But I hate it, I hate it, I hate it. Nothing is ever going to make it good for me."

HOW MUCH DID YOUR PRISON EXPERIENCE AFFECT THE ALBUM?

"Not at all. I didn't get out and go, 'Everything is beautiful and different.' My problem was drinking, which I'd already taken care of before what happened, so I was able to deal with it and move on with a clear head. Only two songs on the album [812 and Still Echoes]

were written about that time, and they were written at the time. I didn't want to write a whole album on it – I've just written a whole book!"

WHICH SONGS MEAN THE MOST TO YOU?

"I really like Overlord because I get to sing clean on that. It hurt my throat a lot less in the studio, and it's just something different. And I like Torches and Embers with Greg [Puciato] and Chino [Moreno]. I don't listen to our music, but I'll listen to their tracks sometimes because I'm like, 'Oh, they're my homeboys.'"

DARK DAYS

D. RANDALL BLYTHE

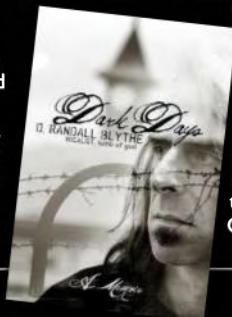
KKKK

SO, YOU WANT THE STORY OF RANDY'S TIME IN PRISON? HERE IT IS...

RANDY BLYTHE can talk a lot. So, imagine how much steam the man's train of thought builds up when he's getting his thoughts out of his head and onto the printed page. And the story of his arrest, incarceration and trial isn't the simplest story to begin with. But Randy's lengthy, wordy style of writing puts

his story into his own, human voice that you can practically hear drawling in your ear as you read.

And it's really thorough. He's omitted no detail about his arrest, his cell, the gamut of emotions he went through, from the strange relief at meeting a black metal-loving inmate when he first arrives in jail, to tension as his trial gets rolling. As expected, then, this tome is far more than just the story of his trial. You get the measure of Randy and his character through his trials and tribulations. You will come away with a new perspective on the man. And a wish never to have to take a shower in a Czech prison.



KNUCKLE PUCK COPACETIC



KNUCKLE PUCK

COPACETIC (RISE)

KKKK

CHICAGO POP-PUNKS KICK THE EP ADDICTION IN FAVOUR OF AN AWESOME DEBUT FULL-LENGTH

1 WALL TO WALL (DEPRECIATION)

It only took four years, but Knuckle Puck have finally made their debut album. And with a title that means 'in excellent order', they better hope that's the case. It is on this opener which transports you back to the early 2000s – a vintage time for pop-punk.

2 DISDAIN

'What could you possibly see in a failure like me', bemoans singer Joe Taylor over a summery backing track. Nice contrast, and use of the word 'occupate'.

3 POISON PEN LETTER

A song about growing up which sees Joe go a bit Tom DeLonge. Plus he drops 'ossify'. Somebody's swallowed a dictionary...

4 SWING

'Not much to show for this time spent alone / I swing but I miss every time', sings the frontman beautifully. It's a song about being a lost kid in your 20s, with a chorus so catchy it'll stay with you 'til your 40s.

5 PONDER

In this super-short, slowed-down number we finally find out how to pronounce the album's title. Brief, but useful.

6 EVERGREEN

Fans of dual vocals, pay attention – when guitarist Nick Casasanto gets involved KP sound like a pop-punk Taking Back Sunday. Nice.

7 TRUE CONTRITE

This is blink-182 after going away to college, coming back, doing a masters, and then a couple of PhDs – e.g. lyrics that mean something.

8 STATIONARY

We know this is a love song because it mentions pouring rain, a heart and bags being packed. Tissues, please...

9 IN YOUR CROSSHAIRS

Joe's 'feeling crippled with resentment' on this angry number. You know big words, Joe... we get it!

10 PRETENSE

Fast-paced drums and delightful delivery of words – especially during the ranty verse. Don't want this to end.

11 UNTITLED

KP ran out of titles but had plenty of music left in 'em with this closer clocking in at 7:52. Mostly instrumental, it ends with Joe whispering, 'I'll tell you everything is copacetic'. And when it comes to Knuckle Puck's debut album, we'd have to agree with him.

THIS ALBUM IS MOSTLY MADE UP OF...



MEWITHOUTYOU

PALE HORSES (BIG SCARY MONSTERS)

KKKK

SHY PHILLY POST-HARDCORE CREW GALLOP ON STUNNING SIXTH ALBUM



AARON WEISS is not your typical rockstar. While some bask in fame's glare, the mewithoutYou frontman's aversion has almost resulted in him

quitting the band he's fronted for 15 years. While others dine in fancy restaurants, he's a self-confessed 'freegan' who gets his food from dumpsters — presumably, as Blue Hen suggests, after he 'Wakes in the moonlight, like badgers at midnight'. Most importantly, though, while there are those who coast on past glories, Aaron and mewithoutYou have authored what's possibly their best album yet. No, his trademark restrained vocals won't make your pulse quicken, but that doesn't matter because Dorothy's lyric 'If you can change your shape that easily, could you take the form of my dead father?' will have already liquidised your soul. Heartbreaking stuff.

DOWNLOAD: Watermelon Ascot.

FOR FANS OF: Brand New, La Dispute.

JAMES HICKIE

BRIGADES

INDEFINITE (PURE NOISE)

KKK

SOUTH CAROLINA POP-PUNKERS GET SERIOUS ON DEBUT FULL LENGTH



WHO'S THIS describing religion as 'A garland of thorns on a black hearse'? Some New Gravers, perhaps? Or maybe a black metal combo?

Er, no, it's South Carolina pop-punk outfit Brigades on Enemy, the first single from this debut album. Smearing a frown over the face of their genre, Indefinite is the sound of a band railing against anxieties and despair. As the song title Fundamentals Of Being Sentimental suggests, Brigades frequently blur the lines between pop-punk and emo, but generate enough melody and energy to avoid alienating listeners who'd be happy with more songs about pizza and girls. (In)definitely ones to watch.

DOWNLOAD: Enemy.

FOR FANS OF: State Champs, Neck Deep, The Wonder Years.

OLLY THOMAS

DEMON LUNG

A DRACULA (CANDLELIGHT)

KKKK

RIFF-LOVING SIN CITY DOOMSTERS SINK THEIR FANGS INTO YOUR EARS

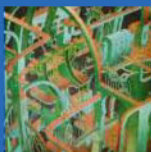


HAVING TAKEN their name from an obscure old EP by Electric Wizard, doom fans would be forgiven for expecting Demon Lung to be a pastiche



LYRIC OF THE WEEK

'SKWAAAAARK!' Yeah, you heard, and to make sure, we'll sing it again: 'SKWAAAAARK!' Sound inhuman? That's 'cause it is, it's Hatebeak front, uh, parrot Waldo screeching his feathers off. We're only slightly disappointed that this ripper doesn't go 'Polly wanna cracker?', but only slightly. **BAND:** Hatebeak **SONG:** Beak Of Putrefaction **ALBUM:** The Number Of The Beak



SLEEVE OF THE WEEK

Stare at the cover of Swedish retro masters Graveyard's new Innocence And Decadence album long enough (about five minutes), and you'll lose your mind. It's like an M.C. Escher painting that doesn't know where it's going. Far out, maan.



VIDEO OF THE WEEK

SUPERLOVE, DON BROCO In which Don Broco hold a dinner party with a load of very well-to-do looking people. It's glamorous, although it also looks a little bit like the band are applying for Come Dine With Me.

of the bong-fixated Dorset doom deities. Nup. They're cut from a similar bit of cloth — big, heavy Sabbath riffs, horror film-y darkness, thorough doomed-ness — but the Las Vegas mob have plenty of tentacles of their own. The riffs to Behold The Daughter, or frontwoman Shanda Frendrick's chilling vocals on I Am Haunted, are a dark, heavy metal treat all of their own. The guitars positively drip with malice, as the riffs slither along like a snake made of creeping doom malevolence, before attacking with an almost death metal chug. It's all used perfectly, creating a dark atmosphere most doom bands would sell their cursed souls for. Fall under Demon Lung's spell — this is one demon you don't want rid of.

DOWNLOAD: Behold The Daughter.

FOR FANS OF: Electric Wizard, Dream Death, Candlemass.

NICK RUSKELL

AWAKEN THE EMPIRE

AURORA (ANOTHER CENTURY)

KKK

SEATTLE ALT. ROCK UPSTARTS CONFIRM THE REVOLUTION WILL BE STYLIZED



YOU CAN'T fault Awaken The Empire's ambition. They've certainly got enough of it. Defining themselves as "more than just a band", the gleamingly

polished Seattle quartet aspire to grander things. On their website, they call themselves a "movement", refer to themselves as "an inspiration", and insist that they are "a call to arms". Fans, meanwhile, are "insomniacs" (which isn't quite as cool as being a maggot, we say). Frankly, at first glance it's all a little obvious and self-consciously My Chemical Romance/30 Seconds To Mars/Next Big Thing, but minus the requisite radio-rocking anthems and thousand-dollar hair. Fortunately, when it comes to Awaken The Empire's musical output, the jacked-up pop-rock, heart-thumping passion and hooky filled class of tracks like Cross My Heart and Insomniacs Unite can't be ignored. And even if the "cult" shtick has been done better before, ATE pack enough bombast to rattle off the rust.

DOWNLOAD: Cross My Heart.

FOR FANS OF: AFI, My Chemical Romance, 30 Seconds To Mars.

SAM LAW

TRACER

WATER FOR THIRSTY DOGS (ODYSSEY)

KKKK

ADELAIDE GRUNGE REVIVALISTS EXPAND THEIR HORIZONS WITH STYLE



IN 2013, Tracer released their second album, El Pistolero. More appropriate titles could have included Baddemotorfinger or Extrasuperunknown given

just how proudly their contorting riffs and Michael Brown's 'I Can't Believe It's Not Cornell' vocals paraded their Soundgarden fetish. While their musical roots remain firmly planted in said garden here on excellent tracks like Us Against The World, this time around they've absorbed other influences to brilliant effect with Owe You Nothing's sliding guitar lick reminiscent of Queens Of The Stone Age's classic Little Sister. Add in the sound of Homeward Bound summoning some Foo Fighterian spirit and Tracer's third album will appeal to anyone who likes their alt.rock to sound absolutely massive.

DOWNLOAD: Homeward Bound.

FOR FANS OF: Soundgarden, Rival Sons.

GEORGE GARNER

NUCLEAR

FORMULA FOR ANARCHY (CANDLELIGHT)

KKK

AN EXPLOSION OF ULTRA-RAGING, ULTRA-VIOLENT THRASH FROM CHILE



SOUTH AMERICAN metal bands are awesome. You won't find more metal maniacs indulging in as much metal thrashing madness as you will on the American sub-continent,

and it's a tradition that Chilean thrashers Nuclear uphold. Like a younger, angrier Sepultura jamming Slayer covers with buckets of wild-eyed gusto, they approach every song like playing metal as hard and aggressively as possible is literally the only thing they live for. And though the song ain't exactly new, the balls-out energy is infectious. Just listen to Scam 38 or the ultra-fast middle finger of Self Righteous Hypocrites and tell us you don't feel like putting your fist through the wall. This is metal as it should be — furious, passionate, red-blooded and completely devoid of fucks to give. Metal maniac? This'll send you nuclear.

DOWNLOAD: Self Righteous Hypocrites.

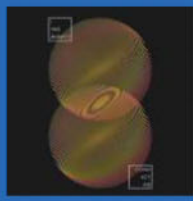
FOR FANS OF: Slayer, Sepultura.

NICK RUSKELL



WITH NEW albums from Neck Deep and The Wonder Years due this summer, pop-punk looks pretty well-served over the next couple of months. But you've gotta wait for it. Fortunately, there's plenty of stuff in the underground to tide you over until the big hitters let loose their new stuff. Take GOING AWAY PARTY with their GOING AWAY

PARTY (KKKK) debut. This Berkshire mob's emo-tinged take on pop-punk's pizza-fuelled bounce puts them in the same postcode as The Wonder Years, but





1 BMTH – HAPPY SONG

It's the first taste of Bring Me's new album! This is not a drill! So what've we got? Oli singing, a ludicrous gang shout, massive, happy-vibe chorus. This album's going to rule, we tell you.

2 STRAY FROM THE PATH – BADGE & A BULLET PART II

Furious rap metal? Sounds like Rage Against The Machine. Which, incidentally, this newbie does.

3 WE CAME AS ROMANS – TEAR IT DOWN

Are you after the beefiest metalcore riff of the year? Right here, folks.

4 KORN – BETTER HAVE MY MONEY

Yes, it's Korn covering Rihanna. We'll just leave this here...

5 QUEEN KWONG – GET A WITNESS

It's got Wes Borland on it – go listen!

JOE SATRIANI

SHOCKWAVE SUPERNOVA (SONY LEGACY)

KKK

KIRK HAMMETT'S GUITAR TEACHER WIDDLES OUT MORE OF THE GOOD STUFF



SOME PEOPLE were just born to play guitar. When a 14-year-old Joe Satriani first picked up the instrument, he set out on a path to musical greatness: one

which would see him playing for Mick Jagger and Deep Purple, forming supergroups with members of RHCP and Van Halen, teaching legends like Kirk Hammett and losing count of the Grammy nominations in the process. Fifteenth album Shockwave Supernova invites more finger acrobatics from a cartoonish guitar wizard whose instrumental sorcery seems to truly know no bounds. But what separates Satch from us mere humans is perhaps his greatest gift of all: knowing when to shut up. Resisting the urge to bombard through unintelligible noise – often a Pandora's box to the technically gifted songs like Goodbye Supernova herald a man who can savour the moment with impeccable musicality and finesse.

DOWNLOAD: On Peregrine Wings.

FOR FANS OF: Ol Drake, Dream Theater.

AMIT SHARMA

COUNTERPARTS

TRAGEDY WILL FIND US (PURE NOISE)

KKK

WAKE UP, IT'S A BEAUTIFUL MORNING – UNLESS HARDCORE'S YOUR GAME



HAVING A good day so far? Perhaps leave recent Fresh Blood stars Counterparts 'til later; then. Frontman Brendan Murphy describes Tragedy Will Find Us as the product of

'Life falling apart', and he's not one for kidding. Burn moves through several distinct sections, culminating in a despairing cry of 'Burn me alive!' and things don't exactly pick up. Tragedy's pretty guitar intro quickly blows into the type of frantic storm typical of melodic hardcore, not relaxing the intensity even in quieter moments. Counterparts fail to offer a single point of light, but as a tempo-shifting rush of catharsis, they at least stare at impending doom with defiance.

DOWNLOAD: Burn.

FOR FANS OF: Gallows, Will Haven.

STEVE BEEBEE

with a noticeably British angle to their confessional lyrics. From across the pond, **I THE MIGHTY** weigh in with **CONNECTOR (KKKK)**, an album which bounces along nicely on the back of a latter-day blink-182 vibe. It's fine stuff, if not entirely original. But then, there's only so many ways you can arrange three chords anyway, and



this lot put them in a perfectly good order. And for those after a little acoustic pop-punk troubadour-ery, there's U.S. songsmith **CASEY BOLLES** with his **FRESHMEN**

(**KKK**) debut. Fans of Aaron West And The Roaring Twenties will find much to air-acoustic-guitar along to here, with misty eyed tales of love and loss proving something Casey's actually pretty good at. With the weather as hot as it is, and with summer stretching before us, it's time for a pop-punk party. You could do worse than invite this lot.

WORDS: NICK RUSSELL

Killswitch Engage

THE END OF HEARTACHE

(ROADRUNNER, 2004)



HOW AN UNKNOWN SINGER HELPED KILLSWITCH CHANGE THE FACE OF METAL, AND HIS OWN LIFE



HAVING STORMED onto the metal radar with 2002's *Alive Or Just Breathing*, Killswitch Engage were already being touted as the future of metal. And then vocalist Jesse Leach quit. Refusing to go down without a fight, they recruited Blood Has Been Shed frontman Howard Jones, and came back with an album that stands as one of the defining staples of modern metal. With guitarist Adam Dutkiewicz' production making it heavier, more melodic, more dynamic, and achingly personal, the quintet charge through anthems *When Darkness Falls* and *Rose Of Sharny*, and get seriously epic and plaintive on the title-track and *World Ablaze*, never putting a foot wrong. That Howard delivers one of the finest vocal performances of the last two decades and stamps his identity on every song sealed its status as a future classic. He may have since left the KsE fold himself, but with a new album from both Killswitch and his *Devil You Know* outfit due this year, what better time to look back at when they made brutal music together?

WERE YOU FEELING A LOT OF PRESSURE STEPPING INTO JESSE'S VACATED SHOES?

HOWARD JONES (VOCALS): "Oh, man, there was no getting away from the pressure! It was a trying time, I'd toured with the band for ages, and then it was like, okay, first record with your voice, your words: no pressure, but *do good!* And I'm like, 'Okay!' It was a really good experience, but it was really stressful at the same time."



"IT WAS A REALLY STRESSFUL EXPERIENCE..."

HOWARD JONES

ADAM'S KNOWN FOR BEING A HARD TASKMASTER WHEN IN THE PRODUCER'S CHAIR. HOW OFTEN DID HE YELL 'BORING!' AT YOU?

"A lot! Thing is, he just wants the best performance, so neither of you have any regrets. He'll get the best out of you – and then he'll make you repeat it! It'd be a case of, 'Okay, I think we got a good take – now do it exactly the same five more times!' He's a perfectionist, and we spent a good month and a half tracking vocals."

YOU RECORDED AN ALTERNATE VERSION OF THE TITLE-TRACK WITH ENTIRELY CLEAN VOCALS FOR THE RESIDENT EVIL APOCALYPSE SOUNDTRACK. WAS THAT WEIRD?

"It was really strange trying to sing parts that were supposed to be screamed. It's written in a different mind-set, and trying to make a part sweet and nice when in your head it's super-pissed is just odd. The label really wanted to clean it up and see if they could do some damage on the radio. The band were like, 'Okay, whatever – but you do know we're still gonna perform it the way it is on the album.'"

JUST HOW MUCH DID THAT RECORD CHANGE YOUR LIFE?

"Oh, man, it changed everything I thought I knew about music overnight. It took everything I knew to a whole new level. We became this band that was extremely active, and other than the times when I was losing my mind, it was a lot of fun! I'll always be proud of it, and the songs really stand up now, which is something that means a lot to any musician."

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR

K! LOBBER

MUST HAVES

ALL THE BEST GEAR FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF PLANET ROCK AND BEYOND!



How bad-ass is Maiden's latest incarnation of Eddie? Bad-ass enough to proudly stick him on your chest. Although, with The Book Of Souls being a double album, to be a true 'Ed-banger, you need to wear two of these at once.

€17.99 (£12.64) Nuclearblast.de



How frickin' enormous is that bear?! It's bigger than a tree! Or maybe they're small trees. We dunno, it's a shirt, innit.
£14.99 Grindstore.com



Don't forget to tie your shoela... WOAH! They're painted onto these sandals! Mind. Blown.
£15 Vans.com



Don't be fooled – those are not real rips. Although you can remedy that by going to Jurassic Park and getting attacked.
\$19.88 (£12.75) Stylinonline.com



Motörhead beer! You see one of these and you say to the barkeep, "Lemmy have one of those."
€49.99 (£35) Nuclearblast.de



Nothing's going to fall out of this Fall Out Boy bag. Which is good. It'd be a pretty crap bag otherwise...
£25 Plastichead.com



Iron Man has all the gadgets in the world. But we bet even he'll be left wanting at this summer's festivals if he doesn't have this rug with his own metallic face on it. Park your arse on it and feel like a superhero.
£19.99 Grindstore.com



For those about to have a nice cup of tea, we salute you, and your awesome AC/DC mug.
£10 Plastichead.com



'I've built my life on broken bones', sang Andy Biersack. And made a shirt out of them, too, it seems.
£8 Plastichead.com



We didn't think Motionless In White could get any darker; then we saw this. We had to turn more lights on to compensate.
£8.99 Grindstore.com



Lunch, the final frontier: Boldly take sandwiches where no sandwiches have gone before with this lunchbox.
£10.99 Grindstore.com



Be the belle of the (eye)ball in this dress. It's a real eye-catcher. They'll see you coming a mile off... [Enough! – Eye Ed]
£25.99 Grindstore.com



Don't get too enamoured with GoT dragon-queen Daenerys. We think she can make them poop on command.

£8.99 Forbiddenplanet.com

Wear this in a festival crowd and you'll appear to disappear. The perfect shirt for evading capture.

£16.99 Grindstore.com



You don't need a Jack Barakat-style bra on your head to love ATL. Just get this shirt.

£14.99 Ripleysclothing.co.uk



Walking Dead board game? Colour us there. Guns, guts and gore – perfect for family game night with granny.

£26.99 Forbiddenplanet.com



Is it an optical illusion? Or is the PVRIS logo on this shirt so small that they had to put an actual magnifying glass on to help you see it? That's not physically possible, but it looks like that's what's going on.

£13.50 Plastichead.com



Blast music on the go in style with this Vans portable speaker. But don't try to wear it. It's not shoes. It's a speaker.

£99 Vans.com



If this shirt is to be believed, Kellin Quinn has headlights in his knees. And if a shirt says it, it must be true.

£14.99 Grindstore.com

RETRO GAMES

THE '80S GAME-THEMED MOVIE PIXELS IS OUT ON AUGUST 12. GET A ONE-UP WITH THIS ARCADE-TASTIC LOOT...

The Sega Mega Drive was the king of 16-bit mayhem. This shirt looks like the blueprints for one. So, basically, you're a walking instruction manual on micro-electronics. Sweet.

£13.50 Plastichead.com

No game has ever been quite as metal as Golden Axe. It's called Golden Axe. For a start, and the characters looked like members of self-proclaimed Kings Of Metal, Manowar. All hail!

£13.50 Plastichead.com

Loveable game hero Alex Kidd's hands were made entirely of pixels. Didn't stop him defeating bad guys in rock-paper-scissor showdowns, though. Give him a blocky, lo-res salute with this shirt.

£13.50 Plastichead.com



Nom nom nom. Oh hi, Pac-Man. Okay, this 3D puzzle doesn't actually talk to you (or eat ghosts), but it still rules.

£6.99 Forbiddenplanet.com

He's not a donkey, and he's smaller than King Kong. But Donkey Kong is still the best gorilla in game world. Give him a hug to let him know.

£17.95 Retrostyler.com



Dude, there are 75 arcade classics crammed into this thing. Not actual arcade machines, silly, just the games. Imagine...

£24.99 Argos.co.uk

Everyone wants a Tetris cushion. But be careful if you're buying two – if you put them too neatly next to each other, they'll disappear forever.

£12 Redbubble.com

GIGS

AAA AAA

DON'T MISS

ASHESTOANGELS

THE BRITISH HORROR STORY TOUR IS UPON US! HERE'S CRILLY TO TELL YOU WHY NEW GRAVE IS SPREADING ITS SHADOW OVER THE UK...



SO, JUST HOW HORRIFYING IS THE BRITISH HORROR STORY TOUR GOING TO BE?

CRILLY (VOCALS): "I think it's going to be pretty horrifying. We're going to have five jet-lagged Americans – Farewell, My Love – who are from Phoenix, and there's going to be no showers on the bus, so the odour might get pretty horrifying, too! I booked the tour and it's mainly basement shows, and I think every night is going to be like a Halloween party in a crypt, which should be horrifyingly fun for everyone there."

WILL THIS BE A GOOD OCCASION FOR CONVERTING MORE PEOPLE TO THE NEW GRAVE CAUSE?

"I think it will be. I run our web store and handle all the tickets, and I've grown familiar with a lot of email addresses because we have some really devoted fans who always come out, and this time around there's lots of new ones, and I'm hoping that wanting to be a part of New Grave is a factor in them wanting to come out."

TELL US SOME FUN FACTS ABOUT YOUR SUPPORT BANDS, FAREWELL, MY LOVE AND THE DEAD XIII...

"There are two members of Farewell, My Love whose names end with 'The Third', as in 'Richard The Third'. Which is incredible. We don't even have a 'The Second' in our band! The Dead XIII started out as a Wednesday

13 and Murderdolls tribute band and very quickly got way too raucous for that. There's some tall guys in our band, but everyone in The Dead XIII towers above us, and they drink Jäger instead of water (laughs)! I'm a little apprehensive about being out with them, because we try to be sensible until after we've played, and I don't know if they have that kind of rule!"

"SOMEONE GAVE US A CAT ONCE, CALLED CRILLY!"

CRILLY

SO, THERE'LL BE PARTYING, BUT IS THERE LIKELY TO BE ANY PRANKING GOING ON?

"Maybe. We shared a van with a band a little while ago, and one of them *maybe* had a girlfriend who *maybe* doesn't like that he's a touring artist, and *maybe* we cranked Warrant's Cherry Pie on the stereo so it sounded like we were in a strip club when she was on the phone with him... That song doesn't get played anywhere else! I think on this tour we're going to have to mess with Farewell, My Love!"

WHAT'S THE WACKIEST THING A FAN HAS GIVEN YOU AS A GIFT?

"We got a lot of sweets for a long time, which started to rot our teeth, so we started asking for more practical things like batteries! Someone gave us a cat once! They came up and said, 'This cat is named Crilly, and we want you to have it.' First I was like, 'No, I can't!' But then I fell in love and that was it. I had to rename him Billy, though – it all would have gotten too confusing (laughs)!"

BEING SO BUSY, HAVE YOU HAD A CHANCE TO WORK ON ANY NEW MUSIC LATELY?

"I've started it! I find getting back on the horse to begin with always a bit taxing, and I'm always very afraid that I've forgotten how to write songs! But I'm two-and-a-half songs in and I've just shown the first one to the band, and I think it's a big step forward, which is cool."

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ELSE IN THE PIPELINE IN THE COMING MONTHS?

"Yeah, we're going to put out a reissue of the album backed with a live version of each track. We've hopefully got a tour lined up in September, and I think we'll put our DVD out around then. Then it will be looking ahead to the next record!"

DATES: Huddersfield Parish July 24, Leicester Shed 25, Southampton Joiners 26, London Camden Barfly 27, Bristol Thekla 28. Support: Farewell, My Love, The Dead XIII.

YOUR WEEK!



Trash Boat making sure they can't be pick pocketed

KERRANG! DAY JULY 22

BRISTOL Blood Youth, Trash Boat (Exchange)

GLASGOW D.R.I. (Audio)

NORWICH Ashestotangels, Farewell, My Love, The Dead XIII (B2)

RIDER OF THE WEEK

BAND: Five Finger Death Punch

Ever wondered what fuels the Las Vegas heavy metallers? Cigarettes and peanut butter sandwiches. To be smoked/eaten separately.

FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH

- Ice on all buses and in dressing rooms
- 2 1/2-gallon low-fat milk
- 1 1/2-gallon lite almond milk
- 2 bottles of fresh squeezed orange juice
- 6 cases of bottled water
- 2 12-packs of Coke
- 1 12-pack of Pepsi
- 4 green machine juices
- 8 coconut waters
- 1 box of raisin bran extra
- 1 box of Special K fruit and yogurt
- 1 box of Frosted Flakes
- 3 1/2-pound Boar's Head turkey
- 3 1/2-pound Boar's Head ham
- 3 1/2-pound Boar's Head roast beef
- 3 1/2-pound Boar's Head sharp cheddar, Swiss, Gouda
- 1 6-pack of V8 low sodium drinks
- 2 Skippy creamy peanut butter
- 1 organic peanut butter
- 2 strawberry jelly
- 1 pack of black knee-high socks
- 2 bottles of hazelnut creamer
- 2 bunches of organic bananas
- 12 red apples
- 2 packages of chocolate chip cookies
- 2 loaves of wheat bread
- 8 Muscle Milk Chocolate
- 6 natural green tea
- 6 Starbucks coffee drinks
- 2 packs of plastic cups
- 2 packs of assorted plastic utensils
- 2 packs of Marlboro lights and a lighter
- 6 Dannon Light and Fit yoghurts (assorted, no chocolate)
- 1 case of bottled water
- 12 assorted Gatorade low calorie
- 12 low carb Monster (blue)
- 12 Monster Mean Bean coffee
- Fruit tray

THURSDAY JULY 23

LONDON D.R.I. (Underworld, Camden)

SHEFFIELD Ashestoangels, Farewell, My Love, The Dead XIII (South Sea Live)

SOUTHAMPTON Blood Youth, Trash Boat (Joiners)

WOLVERHAMPTON Fell Out Boy (Slade Rooms)

FRIDAY JULY 24

BRISTOL Meta-Stasis (Gryphon)

HUDDERSFIELD Ashestoangels, Farewell, My Love, The Dead XIII (Parish)

PETERBOROUGH Blood Youth, Trash Boat (Met Lounge)

STOKE Fell Out Boy (Underground)

SATURDAY JULY 25

BIRMINGHAM Dinosaur Pile-Up, Pulled Apart By Horses (Off The Cuff)

KENT Scorpions, Dream Theater, Saxon, Blue Oyster Cult, Anathema and more! (Ramblin' Man Fair @ Mote Park)

LEICESTER Ashestoangels, Farewell, My Love, The Dead XIII (Shed)

LONDON Soulfly (O2 Academy Islington)

MERTHYR TYDFIL Meta-Stasis (New Crown Inn)

PRESTWICH Fell Out Boy (Festwich)

SHEFFIELD Elegies (Tramlines)

WOLVERHAMPTON Blood Youth, Trash Boat (Slade Rooms)

SUNDAY JULY 26

CARDIFF Soulfly (Globe)

KENT Greg Allman, Rival Sons, The Temperance Movement, The Quireboys, Blues Pills and more! (Ramblin' Man Fair @ Mote Park)

NORTHWICH This Is Turn (Lostock Music Festival)

SOUTHAMPTON Ashestoangels, Farewell, My Love, The Dead XIII (Joiners)

WOLVERHAMPTON Meta-Stasis (Fixxion Warehouse)

MONDAY JULY 27

BIRMINGHAM Soulfly (O2 Academy2 Birmingham)

LONDON Ashestoangels, Farewell, My Love, The Dead XIII (Barfly, Camden)

WREXHAM Meta-Stasis (Central Station)

TUESDAY JULY 28

BRISTOL Ashestoangels, Farewell, My Love, The Dead XIII (Thekla)

LIVERPOOL This Is Turin, Meta-Stasis (Bumper)

MANCHESTER Soulfly (Club Academy)

PORISMOUTH Less Than Jake (Wedgewood Rooms)

SHEFFIELD Blues Pills (Corporation)

CAN'T GET TO A GIG?

THEN HERE'S SOME OTHER STUFF TO KEEP YOUR EYES/EARS BUSY



BACKSTAGE: EAGLES OF DEATH METAL

KERRANG! TV -

JULY 26, 10PM

Not only did we go backstage at their recent London show, we also enlisted ex-Blackout funny man Sean Smith to interview Jesse and Josh! He's just out of shot below, though. Soz.



SLASH'S MADE IN STOKE

SKY ARTS - ON DEMAND

Shotgun the Sky remote immediately, because it's Slash o'clock over on Sky Arts. They're playing his Made In Stoke DVD, which sees the curly-haired guitarist go back to his hometown for a super-special show. Which took place the day after his birthday, fact fans.



MUSE: OFFICIAL TOP 10

MTV ROCKS -

JULY 25, 9PM

Want to have a supermassive fun night in? Well, air plug in your air guitar (baby) and run around your living room, because MTV are playing Muse's biggest videos. Dress like a Knight Of Cydonia! Roll around like a New Born! Do whatever leaves you Feeling Good! Embrace your inner Madness! Right, we're out of Muse jokes now.

MY FIRST GIG

WHO: RUN-DMC, MEMORIAL SPORTS ARENA, LOS ANGELES, 1986

THE RAPPER DOESN'T REMEMBER MUCH FROM HIS FIRST GIG, BUT HE DOES REMEMBER IT ROCKED...



ICE-T, BODY COUNT

"I was already rapping myself, but I'd only been playing at small gigs and I didn't really think that hip-hop could be big. I was taking that bullshit for granted, just because it was fun to do. But when I saw Run-DMC I was like, 'What the fuck?'"

"It was the first rap concert to be put on a big scale. They had lasers and shit, and the crowd was packed - there was, like, 8,000 people there. I was like, 'This shit is rock 'n' roll, this is real.' I can't remember too much about it - I'm not good with dates or last names, that's why I'm a great witness in jail or court. But we were used to seeing rappers in small clubs, garages, basements - Run-DMC played the

LA Sports Arena with production. Lasers, motherfuckers! The one thing I did get from that show is, when a band hits the stage, the crowd screams, but you haven't done nothing! They come out and do their star pose and stand there and they're screaming - what the fuck are they screaming for? They're screaming for past accomplishments and their expectation about what's going to happen. They're screaming for the records you've given them and their anxiety being released because you're about to perform. So, when you leave the stage, there has to be a louder scream: you want to make sure they saw what they expected and they're more happy than when they came in. Run-DMC did that.

"I ran home and just wrote rhymes. I took it real serious at that point. And every me I go onstage, I'm looking to make that last scream louder than the first scream."



GENERAL ADMISSION

WORDS: MARK SUTHERLAND



ABERDEEN

WANNA KNOW ABOUT THE ABERDEEN MUSIC SCENE? THEN MURRAY'S YOUR MAN...



MURRAY MACLEOD, THE XCERTS

WHAT ARE THE BEST VENUES IN ABERDEEN?

"The key venues in town are **The Tunnels (1)**, **Cafe Drummonds (2)**, **The Lemon Tree (3)**, **The Music Hall (4)**, **Cellar 35** and **Downstairs**. We've played great shows in all those venues and some nasty ones, for sure. Our first-ever big support show was with **InMe** at **The Lemon Tree**. We played a great show and **InMe** didn't talk to us. In turn, we've bad-mouthed them ever since. Sorry, guys, but you should have been courteous!"

WHERE SHOULD PEOPLE GO TO PICK UP NEW MUSIC?

"There's a great record store called **Cavern Records** on Belmont Street that I highly recommend. You can really learn a thing or two by spending some time down there and speaking to **Paul Stewart**, the good man who runs the shop. As for practice spaces, **Captain Tom's Music** is where we spent most of our youth. They also have a studio, so if you're looking to record a song, EP or LP, then look no further."

WHO ARE THE PEOPLE MAKING AND BREAKING BANDS?

"Our bud **Ewan Cameron** runs a DIY label called **Black Lake Records** and he is releasing some great records and merchandise. Tom who owns **Captain Tom's Music** also runs a label called **Fat Hippy Records**, who released our first-ever EP. He releases records and puts on shows. He is definitely someone who can help your band out regardless of what stage you're at in your career. Our good friend **Steven Milne**, who books shows at **The Lemon Tree**, is also a great person to know when it comes



Simon Neil bleedin' loves Aberdeen

to music. He's in a killer band called **The Little Kicks** and he's a well-connected guy in the music industry. He really champions local talent."

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO NEW BANDS IN ABERDEEN?

"Perseverance is key. Be prepared to be ignored, what with you living in the north-east, a part of the UK that the music industry blatantly ignores. Be willing to work hard. Also, use the internet to your advantage and write good songs!"

WHAT'S THE BEST GIG YOU'VE EVER SEEN IN ABERDEEN?

"I saw **Biffy Clyro** play to around 100 people on the Blackened Sky tour. It was actually the first time I had ever seen the band play live and they completely blew my mind. **Simon Neil** jumped through the drum kit, there was blood spilling from his head – I'd never seen passion quite like it. The first time I saw **Idelwild** at the **Music Hall** was also unreal. It was only the second show I'd been to in my life, and to see an alternative Scottish rock band play such a big room was a real eye opener for me. My dream felt achievable!"

ARE THERE ANY BANDS FROM THE LOCAL AREA YOU CAN RECOMMEND TO READERS?

"Hjearts, Milwalkie, The Little Kicks, Dirt Drinker, Indian Red Lopez and Thrashist Regime are all worthy of your time."



ALoud.COM
buy your tickets from www.aloud.com

BOOKING NOW

ACCEPT

London Kentish Town Forum December 7.

AGAINST THE CURRENT

London O2 Academy Islington October 7, Glasgow King Tut's 8, Birmingham Asylum 9, Manchester Club Academy 10, Southampton Joiners 11, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 12.

ALL TIME LOW

Edinburgh Corn Exchange August 25, Support: Neck Deep.

ASHESTOANGELS

Norwich B2 July 22, Sheffield South Sea Live 23, Huddersfield Parish 24, Leicester Shed 25, Southampton Joiners 26, London Camden Barfly 27, Bristol Thekla 28.

ASKING ALEXANDRIA

O2 Academy Leicester October 20, O2 Academy Newcastle 21, Lincoln Engine Shed 22, O2 Academy Sheffield 27, Manchester Ritz 28, Support: Memphis May Fire, August Burns Red, In Hearts Wake.

ATREYU

Colchester Arts Centre August 27, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 28.

BAD RELIGION

Manchester Ritz August 3, O2 Academy Leeds 4, Birmingham Institute 5, O2 Academy Bristol 7, London Kentish Town Forum 8, Support: Snuff.

BLACKBERRY SMOKE

O2 Academy Birmingham November 3, O2 Academy Sheffield 4, O2 Academy Newcastle 5, Manchester Academy 6, London Kentish Town Forum 8.

BLACK STONE CHERRY

Cardiff Motorpoint Arena January 28, 2016, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 29, Liverpool Echo Arena 30, Glasgow SSE Hydro February 1, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 2, London SSE Arena Wembley 4, Leeds First Direct Arena 4, Manchester Arena 6, Support: Shinedown, Halestorm, Highly Suspect.

BUTZ KIDS

Manchester Academy III October 9, London Tufnell Park Dome 10.

BLOODSTOCK OPEN AIR

Line-up: Black Label Society, Napalm Death, Wolf, Trivium, Rob Zombie, Within Temptation, Opeth, Ihsahn, Cannibal Corpse, Sepultura, Death DTA, Dark Angel, Nuclear Assault, Orange Goblin, 1349, Armored Saint, Overkill, Ensiferum, Belphegor, Sabaton, Agalloch, Enslaved, Korpiklaani, Pro-pain, Delain, Fleshgod Apocalypse, Battalion, Mordred, Destrage, Godflesh, Conan, Bast, Planet Of Zeus, Dirty Sanchez, Pritchard & Dainton, Ethernal, Lawnmower, Deth, Oaf, Saille, Ammoco, Reign Of Fury, Metaprisim, Desecration, Red Rum, I Am I, Hang The Bastard, Re-Animator, Fire Red Empress, Hexas, Jettblack, Dead Label, Ne Obliviscaris, Silas, Burgerkill, Jasad, Pest, Oil Drake, Traxis, Derbyshire Catton Park August 6-9.

BRAND NEW

Manchester Albert Hall September 10, London Alexandra Palace 11, O2 Academy Sheffield 19, Middlesbrough Empire 20, Edinburgh Usher Hall 21, Dublin Vicar Street 22.

BRITISH UION

Harlow Square July 29, Bristol Bierkeller 30, Cardiff Uni 31, Birmingham Rainbow Warehouse August 2, Chester Live Rooms 4, Lincoln Engine Shed 5, Manchester Club Academy 7, Newcastle Riverside 8, Edinburgh Studio 24 9, Aberdeen Lemon Tree 10, York Duchess 12, Blackburn King George's Hall Windsor Suite 13, Doncaster Diamond Live Lounge 14, Grimsby Yardbirds 15, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 16, Colchester Arts Centre 18, O2 Academy 2 Oxford 20, Plymouth Hub 21, Southampton 1865 22, Poole Mr Kyp's 23, Norwich Waterfront 24, London O2 Islington Academy 26, Support: The Raven Age.

BRYAN ADAMS

London Radio 2 Live In Hyde Park September 13.

BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE

Belfast Ulster Hall September 28, Dublin Olympia 29, O2 Academy Bournemouth October 1, Reading Hexagon 2, Guildford G Live 3, Aylesbury Theatre 5, Stoke Victoria Hall 6, Lincoln Engine Shed 7, York Barbican 9, Aberdeen Music Hall 10, Dunfermline Alhambra 11, Middlesbrough Empire 13, Carlisle Sands 14, O2 Academy Leicester 16, Bexhill De La Warr Pavilion 17, Folkestone Cliff Hall 18, Swansea Brangwyn Hall 20, O2 Guildhall Southampton 21, Ipswich Regent Corn Exchange 22.

CANCER BATS

London 100 Club August 27, Support: Krokodil.

CRADLE OF FILTH

Nottingham Rock City October 16, Bristol Motion 17, Norwich Waterfront 18, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 20,

Glasgow Garage 21, Manchester Academy II 22, London Camden KOKO 23.

CLUTCH

Dublin Olympia Theatre November 20, Belfast Limelight 21, O2 Academy Glasgow 23, Nottingham Rock City 24, O2 Academy Bristol 25, Manchester Ritz December 10, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 11, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 12.

DAMNATION FESTIVAL

Line-up: At The Gates, Leeds University Union November 7.

THE DARKNESS

Cambridge Corn Exchange December 1, Nottingham Rock City 2, O2 Academy Newcastle 4, O2 Academy Glasgow 5, O2 Academy Leeds 9, Manchester Academy 10, O2 Academy Birmingham 11, O2 Academy Bristol 13, O2 Guildhall Southampton 14, Bexhill De La Warr Pavilion 15, O2 Academy Bournemouth 17, O2 Academy Oxford 19, London Camden Roundhouse 20.

DEF LEPPARD / WHITESNAKE

Dublin 3 Arena December 6, Belfast Odyssey 7, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 9, Glasgow SSE Hydro 10, Birmingham Genting Arena 12, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 13, Manchester Arena 15, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 16, London SSE Arena Wembley 18, Sheffield Motorpoint Arena 19, Support: Black Star Riders.

DELAIN

Bristol Marble Factory October 22, Birmingham Institute Library 23, Manchester Academy II 24, London O2 Academy Islington 25, Support: Anneke van Giersbergen, The Gentle Storm.

DON BROCO

Bedford Esquires August 6, London Hoxton Bar & Kitchen 7, Colchester Arts Centre 9, Stoke Sugarmill 10, York Duchess 11, Birmingham Temple 12, Glasgow King Tut's 14, London O2 Academy Brixton December 13.

ENTER SHIKARI

O2 Academy Glasgow February 18, 2016, Edinburgh Corn Exchange 19, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 20, Bournemouth BIC 22, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 23, Manchester Victoria Warehouse 25, London Alexandra Palace 27, Support: The Wonder Years.

EVERY TIME I DIE

Southampton Talking Heads November 6, Plymouth Underground 7, Bristol Fleece 8, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 9, Manchester Sound Control 11, Glasgow King Tut's 12, Aberdeen Tunnels 13, Newcastle Riverside 14, Sheffield Corporation 15, Birmingham Asylum 17, London Tufnell Park Dome 18, London Borderline 19, London Camden Underworld 20, Support: Superheaven, Muck.

THE FALL OF TROY

O2 Academy 2 Liverpool August 16, O2 Academy 2 Newcastle 17, Edinburgh Studio 24 18, London Camden Electric Ballroom 19, Manchester Gorilla 20, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 22, Support: Rolo Tomassi.

FALL OUT BOY

Leeds First Direct Arena October 3, Aberdeen AECC GE Oil & Gas Arena 4, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 6, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 7, Manchester Arena 9, Bournemouth International Centre 10, London SSE Arena Wembley 11-12.

FEAR FACTORY

Bristol Motion December 7, Manchester Ritz 9, Dublin Academy 10, Belfast Limelight 11, Glasgow Garage 12, London Kentish Town Forum 13.

FOO FIGHTERS

Milton Keynes Bowl September 5-6, Edinburgh BT Murrayfield Stadium 8.

FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES

London Borderline August 18.

FRANK TURNER & THE SLEEPING SOULS

Llandudno Venue Cymru November 5, O2 Guildhall Southampton 8, Falmouth Princess Pavilion 9, Glasgow Barrowland 13, Newcastle Uni 14, Nottingham Rock City 15, O2 Academy Birmingham 18, O2 Academy Sheffield 19, Bristol Colston Hall 21, Manchester Academy 23, London Alexandra Palace 26.

GHOSTFEST

Line-up: Hatebreed, Despised Icon, Turnstile, Rise Of The Northstar, Nasty Astro, Boys, Make Them Suffer, Slaughter To Prevail, Venom Prison, Emmure, Oceano, Angel Du\$t, Oathbreaker, Desolated, Broken Teeth, Casey, Born Of Osiris, Martyr, Defiled, The Eyes Of A Traitor, Sealofa, Jonny Craig, Continents, Leeds University September 5, Bristol Motion 6.

GNARWOLVES

Birmingham Rainbow Warehouse December 9,

Manchester Sound Control 10, Leeds Key Club 11, Glasgow Audio 12, Sheffield Local Authority 13, Liverpool District 14, Nottingham Bodega 15, Bristol Exchange 16, Bournemouth Sound Circus 17, London Camden Underworld 18, Support: Spraynord, Such Gold.

HALESTORM

O2 Academy Liverpool August 17, London Camden KOKO 18.

HATEBREED

Reading Sub 89 September 4.

HEVY FESTIVAL

Line-up: Coheed And Cambria, Thrice, The Dillinger Escape Plan, Monuments, Vales, Grader, Up River, OHHMS, Collisions, Baby Godzilla, Black Tusk, The Colour Line, Continents, Creeper, Fathoms, Fort Hope, The Get Up Kids, Hackivist, Touché Amoré, Wraiths, The Fall Of Troy, Judge, Ignite, A Wilhelm Scream, Teenage Bottle Rocket, Arcane Roots, Crooks, Broken Teeth, Hang The Bastard, Black Peaks, Blood Youth, Trash Boat, Youth Man, Press To Meco, Protest The Hero, As It Is, Betraying The Martyrs, Break Even, Chon, Endless Heights, God Damn, Landscapes, Milk Teeth, Protest The Hero, Stick To Your Guns, Sweet Jesus, Waster, Port Lympne Wild Animal Park August 14–15.

INME

Manchester Sound Control September 14, Glasgow Classic Grand 15, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 16, Birmingham Warehouse 17, London O2 Academy Islington 18.

JIM ADKINS

Birmingham Glee Club September 2, Glasgow Cottiers Theatre 3, Manchester Royal Northern College Of Music 4, London Union Chapel 5.

LESS THAN JAKE

Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms July 28, Southend Chinnery's 29, Reading Sub 89 30, Coventry Kasbah August 1, York Fibbers 4, London Brooklyn Bowl (with Anti-Flag) 8, Bristol Motion 11, Southampton Engine Rooms 12, Winchester Boomtown Fair 14.

LUMP BIZKIT

London O2 Academy Brixton August 27.

MACMILLANFEST 2015

Line-up: Fearless Vampire Killers, Evil Scarecrow, Glamour Of The Kill, The One Hundred and loads more! Nottingham various venues September 5.

MAKE A SCENE FESTIVAL

Line-up: Don Broco, Betraying The Martyrs, Napoleon, Attention Thieves, Create To Inspire, Boston Manor, Waster, All At Sea, The City Is Ours, North Seasons, Black Nevada, Across All Oceans, Middlesbrough Venue August 15.

MALLORY KNOX

O2 Academy Glasgow September 28, Manchester Ritz 29, Cambridge Junction 30, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall October 2, Middlesbrough Empire 3, Cardiff Plas 4, Exeter Lemon Grove 6, Nottingham Rock Circus 7, Norwich UEA 8, London Camden Roundhouse 9, Support: Set It Off, The Xcerts.

MARILYN MANSON

London Eventim Apollo November 19, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 21, O2 Academy Glasgow 22, O2 Apollo Manchester 23, Support: Krokodil.

MEGADETH / LAMB OF GOD

Glasgow Braehead Arena November 11, O2 Apollo Manchester 12, London SSE Arena Wembley 14, O2 Academy Birmingham 15, Support: Children Of Bodom, Sylosis.

MISFITS

London O2 Academy Islington August 1, Manchester Club Academy 2, Bristol Motion 4, Southampton Engine Rooms 5, Support: Creeper.

MOOSE BLOOD

Turbridge Wells Forum August 27, Chester Live Rooms September 1, Norwich Owl Sanctuary 2, Bournemouth Sound Circus 4, Plymouth Underground 5, Swansea Scene 6, Coventry Kasbah 7, Carlisle Bridyard 8, Support: Creeper.

MOTLEY CRÜE

Newcastle Metro Radio Arena November 2, Manchester Arena 3, Birmingham Genting Arena 4, London SSE Arena Wembley 6, Support: Alice Cooper.

NICKELBACK

Sheffield Motorpoint Arena November 13, Glasgow SSE Hydro 14, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 16, Manchester Arena 17, Liverpool Echo Arena 19, Birmingham Genting Arena 21, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 22, London SSE Arena Wembley 24, Support: Monster Truck.

NIGHTWISH

London SSE Arena Wembley December 19, Support: Arch Enemy, Amorphis.

NORTHLANE

Bristol Fleece October 4, Birmingham Asylum 5, Glasgow

Classic Grand 6, Manchester Club Academy 7, London O2 Academy Islington 8, Southampton Talking Heads 9, Support: Volumes, The Acacia Strain, Hellions.

THE OFFSPRING

O2 Apollo Manchester August 25, London O2 Academy Brixton 26, Support: The Menzingers.

OPETH

London Palladium October 18.

ORANGE GOBLIN

Wolverhampton Slade Rooms December 3, Bristol Bierkeller 4, Norwich Waterfront 5, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 6, O2 Academy 2 Oxford 7, Colchester Arts Centre 8, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 10, Stoke Sugarmill 11, Leeds Key Club 12, O2 Academy 2 Newcastle 13, Glasgow King Tut's 15, Manchester Sound Control 16, London Camden Electric Ballroom 17.

PALM READER

Basingstoke Sanctuary September 1, Plymouth Exile 2, Derby Victoria Inn 3, Glasgow Ivory Blacks 4, Sheffield Riverside 5, Swansea Lemon Factory 6, London Surya 8.

PAPA ROACH / FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH

London Wembley SSE Arena November 28, Support: Devil You Know, Eskimo Calboy.

PARKWAY DRIVE

London O2 Academy Brixton February 12, 2016, O2 Apollo Manchester 13, O2 Academy Glasgow 14, O2 Academy Birmingham 15.

THE PRODIGY

Nottingham Capital FM Arena November 24, Newcastle Upon Tyne Metro Radio Arena 26, Manchester Central 27, Sheffield Motorpoint Arena 28, Dublin 3 Arena 30, Belfast Odyssey Arena December 1, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 3, London SSE Arena Wembley 4–5, Support: Public Enemy.

READING & LEEDS

Line-up: Metallica, Pierce The Veil, Refused, Limp Bizkit, Alexisonfire, Manchester Orchestra, Royal Blood, All Time Low, American Football, Bring Me The Horizon,

Mastodon, Neck Deep, Panid At The Disco, Slaves, We Are The Ocean, Marmozets, Cancer Bats, Finkiero and the collaboration, Ghost, Gojira, Modern Life Is War, The Menzingers, While She Sleeps, Frank Turner, Daria, Lonely The Brave, Radkey, Ash, Simple Plan, New Found Glory, Bury Tomorrow, The Gaslight Anthem, Against Me!, Feed The Rhino, Modestep, FIDLAR, BABYMETAL, Twin Atlantic, Nothing But Thieves, Modern Baseball, The Bots, The Smith Street Band, Atreyu, PVRIS, Black Peaks, The One Hundred, Frank Carter & The Rattlesnakes, Turbowolf, Moose Blood, Queen Kwong, Hawk Eyes, Single Mothers, As It Is, No Devotion, The Bronx, Baroness, God Damn, Mariachi El Bronx, Bo Ningen, Skinny Lister, Seether, Don Broco and more! Reading Richfield Avenue and Leeds Bramham Park August 28–30.

SABATON

Norwich UEA February 26, 2016, Manchester Academy 27, O2 Academy Birmingham 28, O2 Guildhall Southampton 29, Aberdeen Music Hall March 2, Glasgow Barrowland 3, Belfast Limelight 4, Dublin Vicar Street 6, Cardiff Tramshed 7, Bristol Motion 8, Support: Alestorm, Bloodbound.

SIKTH

Glasgow Classic Grand December 5, Manchester Academy II 6, Bristol Marble Factory 10, O2 Academy 2 Birmingham 11, London Kentish Town Forum 12.

SKINDRED

O2 Guildhall Southampton November 4, Norwich UEA 5, Nottingham Rod City 6, Manchester Academy 7, O2 Academy Glasgow 10, Leeds Stylus 11, O2 Academy Bristol 12, Birmingham Institute 13, London O2 Academy Brixton 14, Support: Crossfaith, (hed)pe, Yashin.

SLAYER

Newport Centre November 21, Plymouth Pavilions 22, O2 Apollo Manchester 24, O2 Academy Glasgow 25, O2 Academy Birmingham 27, O2 Academy Leeds 28, London O2 Academy Brixton 30, Support: Anthrax, Kvelertak.

STATE CHAMPS

Belfast QUB Students' Union September 15, Dublin Academy II 16, O2 Academy 2 Liverpool 17, Birmingham

JUST ANNOUNCED

AVANTASIA

London Kentish Town Forum March 8, 2016.

ARNOCOPS

Manchester Star & Garter August 1, Dublin Voodoo Lounge 2, Belfast Bar Sub! 3, Glasgow Audio 4, Sheffield Corporation 7, London Camden Underworld 15.

BAD SIGN

Southampton Joiners August 28, Bridgend Hobos 29, Norwich Owl Sanctuary 30, Stoke Tech Noir 31, Glasgow Nice N Sleazy September 2, Sheffield Corporation 4, Support: Foes.

CARNIFEX

Cardiff CF10 December 5, Glasgow Cathouse 6, Manchester Sound Control 7, London Camden Underworld 8, Support: Within The Ruins, Fallujah, The Last Ten Seconds To Life.

DEFTONES

Support added: Architects.

FATHOMS

London Camden Black Heart August 16, Cardiff Fuel 17, Stoke Tech Noir 18, Newcastle Globe 19, Birmingham Rainbow Cellar 20, Derby Victoria Inn 21, Southampton Talking Heads 23, Support: An Elegy.

FIGHTSTAR

London Troxy October 17, Southampton University 18, Exeter Lemongrove 19, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 21, Norwich Waterfront 22, Manchester Ritz 24, Newcastle Northumbria Uni 25, Edinburgh Liquid Rooms 27, Aberdeen Garage 28.

MALLORY KNOX

Rugby Village September 24, Support: We Are The Ocean, Go Primitive.

NOCCUM / STEELWING

Newcastle Head Of Steam August 31, Birmingham Rainbow Courtyard September 1, London Camden Underworld 2.

OPM

Wokington Monroe's August 28, Derby Hairy Dog 29, Crewe Box 30, Wakefield Warehouse 31, Edinburgh Bannerman's September 2, Glasgow Audio 3, Nuneaton Queens Hall 5, Harlow Square 6, London Borderline 18, Southend Chinnery's 19, Norwich Owl Sanctuary 20, Exeter Cavern 22, Dover Priory 23, Brighton Sticky Mike's 24, Swansea Scene 25, Bournemouth Mr Kyps 27.

X JAPAN

London SSE Wembley Arena March 12, 2016.

THE GASLIGHT ANTHEM

London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire August 29, Support: Against Me!

Asylum 18, O2 Academy 2 Newcastle 19, Glasgow King Tut's 21, Leeds Stylus 22, Manchester Sound Control 23, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 24, London O2 Academy Islington 25, Southampton 1865 26, Kingston Hippodrome October 3, Support: Knuckle Puck, ROAM.

THE STORY SO FAR

Cardiff Yplas December 1, Southampton 1865 2, Exeter Lemon Grove 3, London Camden KOKO 4, Norwich Epic 5, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 7, Birmingham Asylum 8, Manchester Academy II 9, Glasgow Garage 10, Newcastle Riverside 11, Leeds Stylus 12.

THY ART IS MURDER

Manchester Sound Control August 11, London Camden Barfly 12.

TWENTY ONE PILOTS

O2 ABC Glasgow November 4, Manchester Ritz 5, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 6, O2 Academy Oxford 7, Birmingham Institute 9, London O2 Academy Brixton February 25, 2016.

VANS WARPED TOUR UK

Line-up: Asking Alexandria, Black Veil Brides, Young Guns, Reel Big Fish, Metro Station, Memphis May Fire, Anti-Flag, August Burns Red, Attila, The Vord Alive, Ghost Town, Rob Lynch, Fearless Vampire Killers, Forever Came Calling, The Rocket Summer, Frank Carter & The Rattlesnakes, Trophy Eyes, Roam, The One Hundred, In Hearts Wake, John Coffey, Twin Wild, Tigress, Boy Jumps Ship, Creeper, Allusondrugs, London Alexandra Palace October 18.

WE ARE THE OCEAN

Birmingham Asylum November 9, Cardiff Globe 10, Bristol Fleece 11, Norwich Waterfront Studio 12, Leeds Mine 13, Glasgow King Tut's 15, O2 Academy 2 Newcastle 16, Manchester Sound Control 17, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 18, London O2 Academy Islington 20.

WEDNESDAY 13

London Highbury Garage October 30 31.

THE XCERTS

London Camden Dingwalls August 26, Support: Only Rivals.



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BABYMETAL
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The advertisement features the BABYMETAL logo at the top center. To the left, three members of the band are shown in their signature gothic lolita style. To the right, two black t-shirts are displayed: one with the BABYMETAL logo and another with a graphic of the band members. The background is a dark, atmospheric scene with a castle and a large, glowing red skull.

ROCKABILIA.COM
 YOUR MUSIC MERCHANDISE SOURCE
OVER 100,000 ITEMS FROM YOUR FAVORITE BANDS

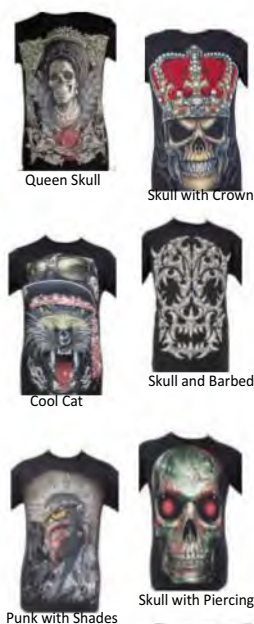
The advertisement for Rockabilia.com features a collage of various music merchandise. At the top, there are t-shirts for bands like ATILLA, Judas Priest, and MISSION. Below these are more t-shirts for PARKWAY DRIVE, IN THIS MOMENT, and SLIPKNOT. A central graphic shows a mouth with a green tongue and pink lips. To the right, there are more t-shirts for NIRVANA, BLACK SABBATH, and A DAY TO REMEMBER. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner. The background is a fiery orange and red.

Rockabilia.com offers the largest selection of music merchandise you will find on the Web - period.
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DON'T Rock with NEGATIVE ENERGY



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fourleaf clothing
 FREE WORLDWIDE DELIVERY for all orders over £50
 GET £5 OFF YOUR FIRST ORDER WITH CODE: KERRANGS

The advertisement for fourleaf clothing features a variety of merchandise. At the top, there are jeans and t-shirts. Below, there are more t-shirts with designs like 'OBEY SATAN', 'DOOM', 'SMOKE METH & NAIL SATAN', 'HEARTLESS', 'GOODBYE', 'KILLSTAR', 'SPACE GRASS', 'T-SHIRT', 'DOLL DRESS', 'PIERCE', 'THE VEIL', 'SLEEPING WITH', 'ARCHITECTS', and 'SLEEPING WITH'. There are also images of people wearing the clothing. The background is a collage of various images related to the brand.

JEANS FROM £23.99!
 DARKSIDE SHIRTS ONLY £8.50!
 OBEY SATAN
 DOOM
 SMOKE METH & NAIL SATAN
 HEARTLESS
 GOODBYE
 KILLSTAR
 SPACE GRASS
 T-SHIRT
 DOLL DRESS
 PIERCE
 THE VEIL
 SLEEPING WITH
 ARCHITECTS
 SLEEPING WITH

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NEXT WEEK

ON SALE JULY 29

NOTHING WILL BE THE SAME AGAIN...

ASKING ALEXANDRIA v2.0

THE FIRST INTERVIEW

EDITORIAL

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE DEBUT ALBUM?

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DEPUTY EDITOR: George Gerner
(Rage Against The Machine – Rage Against The Machine)
ART EDITOR: Steve Beech
(Nirvana – Bleach)
DEPUTY ART EDITOR: Laura Reid
(Glassjaw – Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About Silence)
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PICTURE EDITOR: Scarlet Borg
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THE ULTIMATE ROCKSTAR TEST

SAM CARTER ARCHITECTS

THE FRONTMAN'S BEEN SUBJECTED TO A SOCK-RELATED CATFISHING AND A WHOLE LOAD OF ROACHES

ON ROCK'N'ROLL...

WHAT'S THE WEIRDEST FAN REQUEST YOU'VE HAD?

"We were in Paris once and this girl came up to me with a pair of socks and said, 'Will you sign your socks for me, please?' I didn't really clock it because it was so weird, but it was freaking me out, so I later went and found her and a fake 'me' had been talking to her on Facebook and sent her a pair of socks, claiming I'd worn them. That was scary weird!"

WHAT'S THE WORST PLACE YOU'VE EVER WOKEN UP?

"We were somewhere outside New Orleans and our van broke down. I later woke up in this strange, remote trailer park. We go inside this trailer and there's spiders and cockroaches everywhere... and a notice on a table explaining that a convicted paedophile lived next door! We just ran until we found a hotel parking lot to sleep in!"

WHAT'S THE WORST THING THAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU ONSTAGE?

"In Prague I ran out onstage ready to start the show when this guy comes from nowhere, rugby tackles me to the ground and the band just start playing! I was unconscious and I don't even remember hitting the ground (laughs)!"

Sounds like somebody needs self-defence lessons for Christmas

ON YOUR OWN MUSIC...

2014'S LOST FOREVER // LOST TOGETHER WAS YOUR HIGHEST-CHARTING ALBUM EVER IN THE UK. WHERE DID IT FIRST CHART?

"Sixteen! I don't think we'd ever broken the Top 40 before. We were so excited to even maybe have a Top 40 at all; we were excited about possibly even getting that, let alone where we did! It's pretty cool to say we had a Top 20 record, next to Beyoncé!"

Correct! And since Beyoncé is vegan now, that means she's pretty much an Architects fan by association

YOUR ONE HUNDRED DAYS FILM DOCUMENTS YOUR 'ALMOST WORLD TOUR'. HOW MANY SHOWS DID YOU PLAY IN HOW MANY COUNTRIES?

"Hang on... let me think... 75 shows in 25 countries! Okay, okay, there's a poster of it on my living room wall. I'm not going to lie. Sorry..."

That's okay, we bet it looks lovely on your Kerrang! wallpaper

IN THE ALPHA OMEGA VIDEO, YOU FREQUENTLY APPEAR ON A VIDEO SCREEN AS A TEST SUBJECT. WHAT SUBJECT NUMBER IS DISPLAYED?

"I know our videos pretty well. That was a fucking scary video! But, oh god... I know there's a little



'A' on that screen somewhere. Is it 'ARCH'?"
WRONG! It's X11. You might wanna get that on a poster for next time someone quizzes you

ON THE HYPOTHETICAL...

YOU'RE GIVEN THE POWER TO CHANGE ONE THING IN THE WORLD – WHAT DO YOU DO?

"I'd change people's denial of climate change; make them realise and accept and do something about what's happening to the world. If we could make people start giving a shit about what we're doing to the planet, that'd be great. And make David Attenborough president, or something."

YOU'RE OFFERED TO HEADLINE ANY FESTIVAL IN THE WORLD OF YOUR CHOOSING, ON THE CONDITION YOU DON'T EXPRESS ANY POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL OR SOCIAL VIEWS. WHAT DO YOU DO?

"Well, we wouldn't have many songs to play (laughs)! All our fun songs are about that stuff! I'd love to headline Rock am Ring – hopefully one day they'll let us... and let us play our songs! Seriously, though, I don't think we could do it – it'd be really fun, but so anti-everything that we stand for."

IF YOU COULD ERASE ANY MOMENT FROM ARCHITECTS' HISTORY, WHICH WOULD IT BE?

"I would go back to a show in Texas, the first time we played there, and Ali [Dean, bass] somehow persuaded me to go onstage and open by saying, 'Who let the dogs out?' So, I did. And nobody said it back. They've rinsed me about it relentlessly ever since. So, if I could change anything, it would be that night!"

Sounds like a ruff gig, Sam. Real ruff...

SPIRITUAL HEADMELTER... ARE WE ALONE IN THE UNIVERSE?

"No. Sorry if I'm sounding a bit Tom DeLonge, but I just can't fathom that idea. When it comes down to it, when you think about how wild it is that we're on this planet, that's got to be the case somewhere else. Whether they're flying around in fucking crazy spaceships, I dunno, but there has to be something somewhere that has life on it. We can't just be a mistake; there has to be something else. I'd love to hang out with aliens, too. They'd have to come here, though..."

Playing it cool and making the aliens come to you, Sam. We like your style



THE VERDICT BEING THE SUBJECT OF A SOCK-RELATED CATFISHING... SOUNDS PRETTY ROCK'N'ROLL TO US

SCORE
82%

THE LEADERBOARD

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1	ROB HALFORD	JUDAS PRIEST	99%
4	ICE-T	BODY COUNT	97%
5	MATT SORUM		97%
6	GENE SIMMONS	KISS	96%
7	ALICE COOPER		95%
8	JOE ELLIOTT	DEF LEPPARD	95%
9	SATCHEL	STEEL PANTHER	92%
10	SAM CARTER	ARCHITECTS	82%

71	BOB MOULD	HÜSKER DÜ/SUGAR	64%
72	AUSTIN CARLILE	OF MICE & MEN	61%
73	ALEX GASKARTH	ALL TIME LOW	55%

**"SOMEONE
PRETENDED TO
BE ME!"**

SAM CARTER



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